

AUGUST 16TH, 2026 | 20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

St. Mary of the Visitation

Catholic Parish - Huntsville, Alabama

Oldest Catholic Parish in North Alabama - Established 1861

222 JEFFERSON ST. N

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 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 | *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 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

www.smvparish.com

GREAT

Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."

MATTHEW 15:28

Save the Date

Sep 25: "Who is the Man of the Shroud" Exhibit in the Parish Hall

Please send news, pictures, etc., for the SMV Monthly Newsletter to: visitationnews@gmail.com by the 15th of the month to be in the next month's newsletter.

Financial Contribution

Weekly Operating Expenses: \$20,119

August 8/9

Weekly Church Support...\$21,345

Holy Family.....\$720

JPII High School.....\$55

Building Fund.....\$9,465

Thank you for your generosity and continued support!

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

Pastor's Note

Dear Parish Family,

This weekend we celebrate the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, and in the Gospel (Matthew 15:21-28) we encounter the beautiful faith of the Canaanite woman. Although she faced obstacles and apparent rejection, she never gave up. Her humility, perseverance, and unwavering trust in Jesus were rewarded with His words: "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." Her example reminds us that God always hears the prayers of those who approach Him with faith and perseverance. Let us never become discouraged in prayer, even when answers seem delayed. The Lord is always working for our good.

This week the Church offers us the witness of several inspiring saints. On August 20, we celebrate St. Bernard of Clairvaux, whose deep love for Christ and devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary continue to inspire the Church. On August 21, we honor St. Pius X, the pope who encouraged frequent reception of Holy Communion and lowered the age for children to receive their First Holy Communion. On August 22, we celebrate the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary, recognizing Mary as our loving Queen and Mother, who continually intercedes for us before her Son. May these celebrations strengthen our love for Christ and His Church.

Beginning August 23, our Faith Formation classes resume for another year. I ask every parishioner to pray for our catechists, children, parents, youth, and all our volunteers who generously share their time and talents in passing on the gift of faith. We also begin this year's Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) journey. Let us remember in our prayers those who are preparing to enter the Catholic Church, as well as their sponsors, that the Holy Spirit may guide them every step of the way toward the joy of the sacraments.

Family Tip #12: Maintain a dress code when you come for Mass: Please maintain modest and respectful attire when attending Mass. Avoid sleeveless clothing and excessively short pants. As families, let us teach our children that coming to church is a sacred encounter with God. Help your children understand that there is a difference between dressing for a shopping mall and dressing to worship the Lord. The way we dress reflects the reverence we have for the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

May God bless you and your families abundantly. Let us continue to grow together in faith, hope, and love.
Fr. Jose

Parish Registration

If you are 18 or older, attend Visitation on a regular basis, and have not registered, please complete a registration form. Forms are available on our website and 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 and say a prayer.

Aug 16-23 For the intentions of:

Sun: Mr. & Mrs. Eric Benzenhafer
Mon: Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Berger
Tues: Mr. Charles Bernhard
Wed: Dr. & Mrs. Fabian Berru
Thurs: Mr. & Mrs. George Berry
Fri: Ms. Hannah Bertelson
Sat: Mr. Stephen Bette
Sun: Mr. Matthew Bice



Readings —Week of August 16

Sunday: Is 56:1, 6-7/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8/Rom 11:13-15, 29-32/Mt 15:21-28

Monday: Ez 24:15-23/Dt 32:18-19, 20, 21/Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday: Ez 28:1-10/Dt 32:26-27ab, 27cd-28, 30, 35cd-36ab/Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday: Ez 34:1-11/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 20:1-16

Thursday: Ez 36:23-28/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19/Mt 22:1-14

Friday: Ez 37:1-14/Ps 107:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 22:34-40

Saturday: Ez 43:1-7ab/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Mt 23:1-12

Observances — Week of August 16

Sunday: 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wednesday: St. John Eudes, Priest

Thursday: St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church

Friday: St. Pius X, Pope

Saturday: The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Youth Classes Start Next Weekend

Families with students enrolled in classes this year,
Please Check Your Email for Important 1st Day Details!!



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.

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

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

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, Jim Bodine, Caroline Lindsey, Dev Flynn,

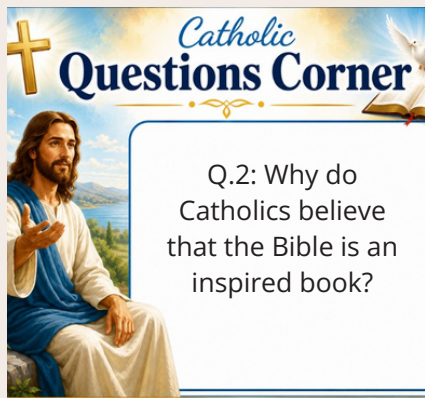
Timothy Payne, Seraphina Newquist, Paul Torrey,

Donald Roseman, Lessie Jones, and Garrett Lindquist

Have A Prayer Request Or Need A Pastoral Visit?

Contact us for a prayer request 256.536.6349





The Food Pantry

The food pantry shelves are looking good for the week thanks to your continued donations. We only need a few items for now. We need soups; rice mixes; and canned fruit. Thank you so much for helping stock our shelves!

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



Women's Ministry

We're back from summer break and excited to kick off our new season of fun, fellowship, and faith sharing. Mark your calendars and join us for an evening of fun at a Craft Night to paint a tote bag. There will be many designs to choose from to personalize your tote bag. There are 24 spots, so reserve your place now. Contact Liz Montgomery at 281-705-6697 or elizabeth35758@gmail.com.

Whether you have been a devoted, long-time member of the Women's Ministry for years or you are looking to join us for the very first time, we look forward to seeing you as we grow in our faith together.



Congratulations!

Gabriella Weronika Smith
Matthew Alexander Pritchett
Married August 8, 2026



**The Knights of Columbus
Family Breakfast
TODAY 9am-10:30am
at the Parish Hall**

FIFTY-FIVE PLUS {55+}

Let's squeeze out some time for socializing and fun!

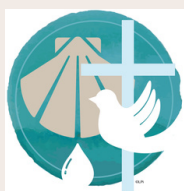


AUGUST 21st - 5:00 pm
At the Parish Center
Grilled Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and Beverages will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Newly Baptized

Atticus Ignacy Sosnovskiy
August 2, 2026

Sara Collins Ryals
August 9, 2026



Weekly Schedule & Intentions

PLEASE CHECK THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR UPDATES TO THIS SCHEDULE

Saturday, August 15

5:30pm Hospitality Gazebo Ministry

Bake Sale in VH after Mass

Sunday, August 16

8:00am † Mary Jane Pfister

9-10:30am KofC Family Breakfast (PH)

9:30am OCIA Meet & Greet (TH)

11:00am Ambassadors Ministry

12:30pm Our Parish

Bake Sale in VH after each Mass
Noon-1:00pm Food Distribution

Monday, August 17

6pm St. Veronica Blanket Ministry (TH)

Tuesday, August 18

8:00am † Arturo Rios

Wednesday, August 19

8:00am † Bea & Charles Albright

10-11am Pray & Play Katie LeBlanc

334.470.7854 for location

6:30pm St. Michael Ministry (VH)

Thursday, August 20

8am Kathy Hall (I)

6pm Women's Ministry (TH)

6pm Men of St. Joseph (HFR)

Friday, August 21

8:00am Robert & Karen Davis (I)

8:30am Coffee Social (VH)

5:00pm 55+ (PH)

Saturday, August 22

5:30pm Our Parish

Sunday, August 23

8:00am Pray & Play Ministry

9:30am Youth Faith Formation (PH)

9:30am OCIA (TH)

11:00am Mothers' Ministry

12:30pm Women's Ministry

Noon-1:00pm Food Distribution
(C) Church, (HFR) Holy Family Room, (O) Office, (PH) Parish Hall, (TH) Treacy Hall, (VH) Visitation Hall

Bake Sale

Come satisfy your sweet tooth and support St. Mary's Catholic Daughters Court, Roses for St. Mary, at our Back-to-School Bake Sale! We'll be serving up delicious treats after all Masses this weekend in Visitation Hall. All proceeds will help us fund various future CDA projects and church programs like the building fund.



Helpers Needed for all Weekend Masses

Ushers – contact Brian Mitchell
briankmitch@hotmail.com

Lectors – contact Erin Boles
erindacy@icloud.com

Eucharistic Ministers – contact Billy Wilson
billyraywilson@gmail.com

Ambassadors – contact Kathy Nerger
knerg@pm.me

Altar Servers – contact Karen Vandiver
j.vandiver@mchsi.com

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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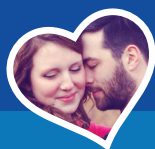
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