

MARCH 8, 2026 | 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT



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



Lenten Opportunities

Feb 24-Mar 27: Stations of the Cross Tues-Friday after the 8am Mass

Mar 15-17: Stations of the Cross at 6pm followed by our Parish Mission with Father Jose

Mar 21: Penance Service 10am-Noon

Fridays in Lent: Stations of the Cross following the 8am Mass
12:15pm Stations of the Cross

5pm Potluck Supper In Treacy Hall
6:30pm Mass, Stations, & Adoration

Financial Contributions

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

Feb 28/Mar 1, 2026

Weekly Church Support....\$31.400
Holy Family.....\$100
JPPII High School.....\$45

Thank you for your generosity and continued support!

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

Blessing of Living Water

Lord, where there has been dryness in my life, bless me with Your living water!
 Where I fear to dream of new hope and growth, bless me with Your living water!
 Where I'm thirsty for new and abundant life, bless me with Your living water!
 Drench the parched earth with Your promise, bless me with Your living water!
 Amen. ©LPi

Everyday Stewardship

When I think about the story of the Samaritan woman at the well, I think of my father. This Gospel reading that we use every year for the First Scrutiny of the RCIA was always my favorite to discuss with those who would be baptized in just a few weeks at the Easter Vigil. Not that many years ago, my father was one of those elect. That year, the story was more powerful than ever.

The woman went frequently to the well looking to get the water that would sustain her body. But in the story, Jesus tells her of a different kind of water, one that gives life and quenches even the driest of thirsts. The story tells us that she put down her water jar and ran to the town telling of her encounter with the One who may be the Christ. She left that jar at the well. She did not need it anymore.

I encounter people all the time that spend their days going up the hill to draw water. They are tired and spent. My father was one of those. But with the gift of baptismal water, that constant chore is now over. There is no need to travel up that hill.

This Lent, if you are one of the baptized, reclaim the gift of your baptism. Stop climbing that hill in search of something that can only quench your thirst temporarily. You encountered Christ and have the everlasting, living water already. Put down that water jar. Your new life has only just begun.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
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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.

- Mar 8-15** For the intentions of:
Sun Mr. & Mrs. Zachary Silva
Mon Mrs. Sondra Simon
Tues Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Sinor
Wed Ms. Elena Skarupa
Thurs Mr. Gregory Skupien
Fri Ms. Jennifer Skupien
Sat Ms. Jessica Skupien
Sun Ms. Jen Slack

Weekly Readings & Observances—Week of March 8, 2026

- Sunday:** Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42 **3rd Sunday of Lent; Daylight Saving Time begins**
Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Ps 42:2, 3; 42:3, 4/Lk 4:24-30 **St. Frances of Rome, Religious**
Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/Mt 5:17-19
Thursday: Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 11:14-23
Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17/Mk 12:28-34
Saturday: Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/Lk 18:9-14

Faith Formation

Please join our 3rd grade class this week in praying for the sick and those undergoing or recovering from surgery.

NO YOUTH CLASSES NEXT SUNDAY 3/15

Classes Resume 3/21



St. Joseph Table —We will have a table set up in the church underneath the statue of St. Joseph next weekend, March 14/15. If able, bake and bring bread wrapped in something like Saran wrap. The bread will be picked up on the 15th after the 11am Mass and given to the Food Pantry to distribute.

Contact is Mary Davis , 256-881-3152

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 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, Evan Shackelford, Timothy Payne, Buddy Rogers, Lisa Downard, and Seraphina Newquist.



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



Newly Baptized
Samuel Joseph Diaz
February 28, 2026

We are excited to announce the launch of a **Prolife Ministry** group, dedicated to protecting and celebrating the sanctity of life from conception to natural death. Guided by our faith, we seek to serve our community through prayer, education, and support for those in need. Our first meeting will be on **Tuesday, March 24, at 6:30pm in Treacy Hall.**

For more information, please contact **Mary Fitter: mary_fitter@yahoo.com or 808-489-5344**

Our Easter Flower Offering is a way to remember our deceased and to honor the living and also supports our Easter decorating. Please turn your envelope in by **March 22** for names to appear in the bulletin.

Applications for our annual **Parish Education Award** are now available. Details and entry forms are in the narthex. Submit entry form, brief autobiography, essay or audio file and letter of recommendation to the parish office by **March 30**. Notification will be made in May. **Contact is Erin Boles at erindacy@icloud.com or 256-603-6781.**

Potluck Suppers—Enjoy some Friday fellowship!
5:00pm on the Fridays in Lent in Treacy Hall. Bring a meat-free dish to eat & share.
Mass at 6:30pm followed by Stations of the Cross and Adoration.

Parish Pastoral Council—For anyone who may have missed Father Jose’s announcement regarding our Parish Pastoral Council, our new members are Duke Downard, III, Amy Gallagher, Jed Park, and Wendy Springsteen. Our new Chair is Steve Plonka. Our outgoing members are Dash Merritt, Susan Park, and Liz Taylor. Thank you to all!

The **Food Pantry** is needing the following items: canned chicken; Chef Boyardee; canned fruit; soup; jelly; and cereal. Thank you so much for your generous donations. Scan the QR code to see our Amazon Wish List. Or type in: <https://linktr.ee/smvpantry>



Prayer Ribbons—Offer up a prayer as you tie a ribbon to the church railing. The Prayer Ribbons serve as a visual representation of our prayers and offerings and provide an opportunity for reflection as we prepare our hearts for the coming Easter season.

Women’s Ministry – An Evening of Lenten Reflection

All ladies of the parish are invited to an evening of reflection to prepare ourselves for Holy Week and Easter. We will have an opportunity to reflect on the meaning of this sacred time and deepen our faith through prayer, reflection, and fellowship. Our theme for this evening is **Hearing God’s Voice:**

Following in the Footsteps of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Join us Thursday, March 19 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the Fr. Treacy Hall. Christina Semmens will lead us into a deeper and more meaningful season for Easter. She is the author of the book, *Say Yes: Discovering Purpose, Peace and Abundance in Daily Life*, has a Masters of Arts degrees in both History and Theology, and is a leadership and personal development coach, speaker, retreat leader, spiritual mentor, host of the *Say Yes to Holiness* and *Catholic Leadership Puzzle* podcasts, and contributing writer to the online blogs *Women of the New Evangelization (WINE)* and *Catholic365*. **Please RSVP to Liz Montgomery at 281-705-6697 elizabeth35758@gmail.com so we**

Altar Servers Needed!
If you are interested in volunteering please contact Karen Vandiver at j.vandiver@mchsi.com

Weekly Schedule & Intentions

PLEASE CHECK THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR UPDATES TO THIS SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 7

5:30pm | John & Kathy Nerger (I)

Sunday, March 8

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 | † Maria Reyes Andrade

12:30pm | † Scott Taylor

Noon-1:00pm | Food Distribution

Monday, March 9

3:30pm | Quilting Club (VH)

Tuesday, March 10

8:00am | † Zenika Ekstrom

8:30am | Stations of the Cross

6:00pm | Life in Faith (VH)

Wednesday, March 11

8:00am | Rev. Jonathan Howell (I)

8:30am | Stations of the Cross

10:00am | Pray & Play (TH)

6:00pm | Parish Pastoral Council (TH)

Thursday, March 12

8:00am | † Bud Shatzer

8:30am | Stations of the Cross

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

6:30pm | St. Raphael (TH)

Friday, March 13

8:00am | Donna Jenkins (I)

Mass followed by Stations of the Cross, and a Coffee Social

12:15pm | Stations of the Cross

5:00pm | Potluck Supper (TH)

6:00pm | The Light Ahead (VH)

6:30pm | For the Parish

Mass followed by Stations of the Cross & Adoration

Saturday, March 14

5:30pm | † Bea & Charles Albright

11am | St. Patrick’s Day Parade Blessing

Sunday, March 15

8:00am | The Newquist Family (I)

9:30am | OCIA (TH)

11:00am | For the Parish

12:30pm | † James & Margaret Varner

6:00pm | Stations of the Cross followed by our Parish Mission with Fr. Jose

Noon-1:00pm | Food Distribution

(C) Church, (HFR) Holy Family Room,

(O) Office, (TH) Treacy Hall, (VH) Visitation Hall

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

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announcements & information for
all the area parishes.

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Cristina von Spakovsky, MA, ALC, NCC
Therapist at Catholic Family Services
cvpakovsky@bhmdiocese.org
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