



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

Holy Hour of Adoration & Benediction

1st Thursdays | 7:00pm

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Joy Thomas Nellisery, 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.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: 256.384.3741

Contact Us

222 Jefferson St. N
Huntsville, AL 35801

256.536.6349/www.smvparish.com



THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "No one has gone up to heaven except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man." For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. - Jn 3:13, 17

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

Save the Date

Sep 21: Farewell luncheon for Fr. Joy, 12:30–2:30 at the PH

UPDATE: Our Pilgrimage to the Shrine of the Miraculous Medal in Perryville, MO, has been cancelled.

Financial Contribution

Weekly Operating Expenses: \$17,325

August 30/31 & September 6/7

Weekly Church Support.....\$36,325

Holy Family.....\$364

JPII High School.....\$153

Thank you for your generosity and continued support!

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

Prayer of Love

Dear God, expand my heart in new ways today, to understand the love You have for me, to take that love deeply into myself, and to act from that love. Amen.
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The Cross is Not Negotiable

"Holiness isn't for wimps," Mother Angelica famously said. "And the cross isn't negotiable, sweetheart — it's a requirement."

I love Mother Angelica, and I love this quote. Following God is tough, and to do it you have to make a decision to be tough, to endure tough things — and ultimately, to love the toughness of it all, because within that struggle God meets us with mercy and salvation.

But in light of today's readings, I think Mother Angelica would forgive me for tweaking her words a tiny bit.

Holiness is for wimps, because the cross isn't negotiable.

When the unfaithful among the Israelites were bitten by the serpents, they were healed by looking upon the instrument of their suffering: the serpent itself, mounted on Moses' staff. With a literary flourish that puts Homer and Shakespeare to shame, God inverts that primitive symbol. To heal us, He invites us to look upon the cross — the sacrifice which achieved our redemption.

Jesus came here to die on that cross for us. For the wimps. Because we couldn't do it ourselves, even if we tried. We couldn't right all of our wrongs, not if we had a million years to do it. We would keep screwing it up. We would keep failing. We're wimps; that's what we do.

But the cross — the cross is a magnificent invitation to something more. Divinity Himself, assuming the cloak of flesh and the weight of sin, so that when we look at the cross we might recognize ourselves. So that we might see what we have been, what we are, what we could be. And none of it is negotiable.

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

©LPi

For a list of our ministries visit our website at www.smvparish.com or pick up a Guide to Ministries in the church narthex.

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.

Weekly Readings & Observances—Week of September 14th

Sunday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17 **The**

Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35 **Our Lady of Sorrows**

Tuesday: 1 Tm 3:1-13/Ps 101:1b-2ab, 2cd-3ab, 5, 6/Lk 7:11-17 **Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs**

Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 7:31-35 **St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; St. Hildegard of Bingen, Virgin and Doctor of the Church**

Thursday: 1 Tm 4:12-16/Ps 111:7-8, 9, 10/Lk 7:36-50

Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20/Lk 8:1-3 **St. Januarius, Bishop and Martyr**

Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 8:4-15 **Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gön, Priest, and Paul Chông Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs [M]**

Faith Formation

Pray with us!

Please join our PreK-Kindergarten class this week in praying that we all share God's love with each other and praise Him for all the blessings He provides us every day.



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.

Prayer Requests Claudia McCoy, Jeannie Calvarese, Skye Grant, Darrel & Diane Kaiser, Pat Hicks, Holly Cooney, Noah Hebert, Theresa Marlowe, Sherry Goyer, Debbie Porges, Pam Hardy, Steve Montgomery, George Bury, Joan Smith, Ann Geist, Gerard Drumm, Linda Daniel, Terri Powers, Dana Hammer, and Jim Bodine.

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



IN MEMORIAM

Please pray for the repose of the souls
of

Mary Ann Mitchell

August 28, 2025

Mother of Brian Mitchell (Sharon)

Robert Rees

September 4, 2025

Husband of Marilyn Rees

Robert Smith

September 7, 2025

Brother of Anna Oswald (Edward)

Uncle of Charles Smith (Margarete)



**VISITATION TOTE BAGS
FOR SALE IN THE OFFICE
\$2.00 EACH**

St Mary's Knights of Columbus Council #4080 3rd Annual Smoked Pork Butt Sale



Pre-orders Only



**Pick-up September 27th3pm - 4pm
at St Mary's Parish Center
220 Lincoln St SE Huntsville**

Contact : 610-322-0857 / text or phone

**10 - 12lbs each Pre-cooked
\$50 each suggested donation**

DONATION METHODS

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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.



A **Farewell Luncheon** for Fr. Joy will be held on Sunday, September 21 from 12:30-2:30 at the Parish Hall. All are welcome!

Heavenly Father,

*We thank You for the gift of our priest,
Father Joy, who has faithfully served
this parish with love and devotion.*

*As he prepares to leave, we ask for Your
blessing upon him. Guide him in his new
ministry, and grant him wisdom,
strength, and peace.*

*Comfort our hearts as we say goodbye,
and help us trust in Your plans for the
future.*

*May Your grace unite us as a parish
family, and may Your light shine brightly
through the work of Your servants.*

In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

The next meeting of the **St. Raphael Ministry** will be Saturday, September 20 starting with the 5:30pm Mass. Following Mass, we will have a cornhole tournament. St. Raphael Ministry is a new fellowship and community building ministry for singles in their 40-50's (ish). **For more information, please contact Kora Davis at kora33@att.net**

The Food Pantry is requesting the following items: ramen noodles; peanut butter, jelly; soups; canned fruit; fruit cups; pasta, pasta sauce; canned chicken; and cereal. Thank you so much for your support and donations.

**Scan the QR code to see our
Amazon Wish List.**

Or type in:



Weekly Schedule & Intentions

**PLEASE CHECK THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER
FOR UPDATES TO THIS SCHEDULE**

Saturday, September 13

5:30pm | † Joseph Cremin

Sunday, September 14

8:00am | For the Parish

9:30am | Youth Faith Formation (PH)

9:30am | Adult Faith Formation (O)

9:30am | OCIA (TH)

11:00am | Nazareth House (HFR)

11:00am | † Mark Corona

Noon-1:00pm | Food Distribution

Monday, September 15

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

Tuesday, September 16

8:00am | † James Healy

6:00pm | St. Veronica Blanket Ministry (TH)

Wednesday, September 17

8:00am | † Betty Crampton

6:00pm | Knights of Columbus (PH)

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

Thursday, September 18

8:00am | † Simone Curtis

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

Friday, September 19

8:00am | Arturo Rios (I)

8:30am | Coffee Social

5:00pm | 55+ (TH)

Saturday, September 20

7:00am | Into the Breach (TH)

10:00am | Food Pantry (TH)

5:30pm | For the Parish

5:30pm | St. Raphael Ministry (start with Mass and move to TH)

Sunday, September 21

8:00am | † Manuel Corona

9:30am | Youth Faith Formation (PH)

9:30am | Adult Faith Formation (O)

9:30am | OCIA (TH)

11:00am | Nazareth House (HFR)

12:30pm | Farewell Luncheon for Fr. Joy (PH)

11:00am | † Patrick Bolton

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)

55+

Football Season

Time to Tailgate (Inside)!

Wings, chicken tenders, drinks provided.

Please bring a side-dish or dessert
to share

Kick-Off Time 5:00pm

September 19th

in Treacy Hall Field



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.
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Cristina von Spakovsky
MA, ALC, NCC
Mental Health Counselor
(256) 203-6542

- I work with ages 5 and older with a variety of life difficulties -
- Contact me if you are looking for a Catholic Christian counselor to help you walk through life's difficulties!

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