

SECOND COLLECTIONS IN FEBRUARY 2/28—Salvatorian Mission Warehouse

DATE	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER	ALTAR SERVER
Sat. Mar 6 5:30 PM	Cindy Kapudjija	Dn. Louis Citrano	Corrine Arnston
Sun. Mar 7 8:00 AM	Ava Howse	Donna Winghart	Lane Freiburger
Sun Mar 7 11:00 AM	Anna Jones	Walt Wilson	Anthony Ragucci

Collection Counters 3/7
Carolyn Hall, Bob Leslie,
Ron Eimer, Karen Hancock

Online Giving is Coming!
Watch for sign up information
coming soon.

Parish Ministries

Help us build and strengthen our parish community and the sense of belonging taken from us by the pandemic. If you have any suggestions for new ministries or are interested in starting or helping to start one, please contact the Parish Pastoral Council at pastoralcouncil@smvparish.org.

Bible Class

Wednesdays of Lent from 10:00-11:00 AM at the Parish Center. Must bring a bible and please wear a mask. Social distancing will be followed.

Stations of the Cross

Fridays of Lent at 12:15 PM and 7:00 PM
Eucharistic Adoration Friday 6:00-7:00 PM

Parish Vision and Mission Statement

What is St. Mary of the Visitation parish? Who are we? Why do we exist? What are our core values and foundations of our church? Send your suggestions for an update to the existing vision and mission statement on the back of the bulletin to the Parish Pastoral Council at pastoralcouncil@smvparish.org.

Mass Intentions Feb. 27—March 7

Sat	5:30 PM	†Bea & Charles Albright
Sun	8:00 AM	For the Parish
	11:00 AM	†Jim Rutherford
Mon	8:00 AM	NO MASS
Tue	8:00 AM	†Antanas Venckus
Wed	8:00 AM	Tom & Kim Hoang (I)
Thu	8:00 AM	Mr. Robert Smith (I)
Fri	8:00 AM	Mrs. Marie Digiorgio (I)
Sat	5:30 PM	†Cynthia Lawson
Sun	8:00 AM	†Jess Jones
	11:00 AM	For the Parish

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MON Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9 11 and 13 [cf. 103:10a]/
Lk 6:36-38
TUE Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 [23b]/
Mt 23:1-12
WED Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16 [17b]/Mt 20:17-28
THR Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [40:5a]/Lk 16:19-31
FRI Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19,
20-21 [5a]/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
SAT Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 [8a]/
Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
SUN Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11
[Jn 6:68c]/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25 or Ex
17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Rom 5:1-2, 5
-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith (Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18).

Psalms — I walk before the Lord, in the land of the living (Psalm 116).

Second Reading — God did not spare his own Son (Romans 8:31b-34).

Gospel — This is my beloved Son (Mark 9:2-10).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for all those who are sick or recovering, our military and our first responders. May God bless all caregivers. Names will remain on the prayer list for four weeks. Names may be submitted by email at smvparish@smvparish.com or by calling the office at 256.536.6349.

Jackie Hallows	Joanne Goodson	Barbara Patton
Jim Wall	Pless Knight	Chandler
Kelli Plattsmier	Al Schrenk	Mary Jo Knight
Lisa Fleming	Terry O'Reilly	Teresa Powers
Carl Ritz	Beth Bodine	Jim Shade
Phillip Chadwell	Mason	Rosie Wiethop
Meghan Kenny	Ann Anderson	Marlene Dunlop
Karen Brazier	Mary Langford	Angela Tucker
Cathy Kulas	Pat Hicks	Jeff Skupien
Nettie Johnson	James Foster	
Gordon Keene	Dora Benavides	

The Building & Grounds (B&G) Ministry Needs Your Help

Your participation and support for this ministry is greatly appreciated during these trying times. The B&G ministry provides Church, Parish Center, Rectory, etc. related maintenance and repair activities.

If you are willing, and able, we urge you to consider joining us. For more information, contact Manfred Segewitz by email-manfseg@gmail.com or phone-256.527.2278 (Cell), 256.539.6321(Home). You can also leave your name/number at the Church Office-256.536.6349.

North Huntsville Catholic Youth Group

The Catholic churches of north Huntsville are coming together to form a group for teens in 7th grade—12th grade.

Join us for an evening of food, fun, and fellowship!!

TODAY 5:30-7:30 PM at the Parish Center

Wear a mask & bring a friend to enjoy games, activities, and draw closer to God.

****Parents: Come inside to check-in teen for first meeting.****



Lenten Fish Fry

Friday March 5th
5:00—7:00 PM or
UNTIL WE RUN OUT


\$10.00 per plate
Includes Fish, Fries, Cornbread,
Cole Slaw, Cookie, & Tartar Sauce

Drive thru pick up only
at the Parish Center
220 Lincoln St.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is now having LIVE Online Weekend Experiences!

Alabama's next **VIRTUAL WEEKEND IS MARCH 19-21, 2021 on Zoom Meeting.** You can get more information or register online at www.ALFL-wwme.org or by calling Sean and Angie Murray at 205-530-3607.

LENTEN FASTING & ABSTINENCE





Fasting	Abstinence
Ash Wednesday Good Friday	Every Friday during Lent
Ages 18-59	Ages 14+

How do we fast?
When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal.

Am I excused from fasting and abstinence?
Those that are excused from fast and abstinence outside the age limits include the physically or mentally ill including individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also excluded are pregnant or nursing women.

For more information on fasting and abstinence, visit usccb.org.

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Altar Flower Ministry Meeting

There will be a meeting on Saturday, March 6 at 10:00 AM in the Church for everyone interested in this ministry. Topics to include Easter Flowers, Sign-up Calendar and flower arranging class.



“TOGETHER IN FAITH” BUILDING CAMPAIGN

PLEDGE DRIVE \$4,000,000

If you are new to our parish,
Envelopes with Brochures and Pledge cards
are located in the Church vestibule.
If you would like to make a donation,
visit our website: smvbuidls.org.

Thank you for your financial support.

**When making donations to the Building Campaign
use a separate check from your church
support. These funds are deposited and
accounted for in its own checking account.**

As of December, 2020

87 Pledges received

75 Pledges : \$448,228.00

Accumulated Funds

12/31/2020 \$494,606.00

Weekly Operating Expenses	\$ 4,454.00
Weekly Church Support Feb 20/21	\$ 10,346.00
St. JPII Catholic High School	\$ 100.00
Holy Family School	\$ 35.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 50.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$ 250.00
Black & Indian Mission	\$ 769.00
Special Repair Projects	\$ 125.00

URGENT REPAIRS NEEDED

The Building & Grounds (B&G) Ministry

Will meet on Saturday, March 6
at 10:00 AM in the Fr. Trecy Room.
There are urgent repairs that will be
discussed and work dates planned.

If you are interested in this ministry and are
unable to attend this meeting, please contact
Manfred Segewitz: manfseg@gmail.com or
256.527.2278 (cell), 256.539.6321 (home).



The Deacon's Corner

By Deacon Louis Citrano

Question: In none of the four Gospels does the Blessed Mother visit Jesus' tomb on Easter morning. Why is this? Was it a Jewish custom that the mother not go to the tomb?

Answer: Continued from last week with excerpts from St. Pope John Paul II's General Audience Message from May 1997 on Mary and her absence from Jesus' tomb.

After Jesus had been laid in the tomb, Mary alone remains to keep alive the flame of faith, preparing to receive the joyful and astonishing announcement of the Resurrection. The expectation felt on Holy Saturday is one of the loftiest moments of faith for the Mother of the Lord: in the darkness that envelops the world, she entrust herself fully to the God of life, and thinking back to the words of her son, she hopes in the fulfilment of the divine promises. The Gospel mentions various appearances of the risen Christ, but not a meeting between Jesus and his Mother. This silence must not lead to the conclusion that after the Resurrection Christ did not appear to Mary; rather it invites us to seek the reasons why the Evangelists made such a choice. This silence could be attributed to the fact that what is necessary for our saving knowledge was entrusted to the word of those chosen by God as witnesses, that is the Apostles who gave their testimony of the Lord Jesus' Resurrection with great power. Before appearing to them the Risen One had appeared to several faithful women because of their ecclesial function to go and tell my brethren to go to Galilee, and there they will see me. If the authors of the New Testament do not speak of the Mother's encounter with her risen Son, this can perhaps be attributed to the fact that such a witness would have been considered too biased by those who denied the Lord's Resurrection, and therefore not worthy of belief.

To be continued: the final excerpt will be printed next week.

Drop your questions in the collection basket or email the church office—smvparish@smvparish.com. Please include your name and phone number. Your name and number will not appear in the bulletin, this is only for Deacon Louis to contact you if he has a question about your question.




JPII SHOWCASE DAY

March 2, 2021
6th & 7th Grade Students

Scan to register!

Open to students currently enrolled at St. Ann's, Holy Family, Holy Spirit, and St. John's Catholic Schools

Parents with students currently enrolled in public school, please contact our Admissions Office (admissions@jp2falcons.org) for a tour / student shadow day!

Come see what JPII has to offer!

Second Sunday of Lent

Lectionary: 26

First reading: Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

God put Abraham to the test. He called to him, “Abraham!” “Here I am!” he replied. Then God said: “Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height that I will point out to you.”

When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the LORD's messenger called to him from heaven, “Abraham, Abraham!” “Here I am!” he answered. “Do not lay your hand on the boy,” said the messenger. “Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son.” As Abraham looked about, he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket. So he went and took the ram and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son.

Again the LORD's messenger called to Abraham from heaven and said: “I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you acted as you did in not withholding from me your beloved son, I will bless you abundantly and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore; your descendants shall take possession of the gates of their enemies, and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing — all this because you obeyed my command.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

I will walk before the Lord,
in the land of the living.

**I will walk before the Lord,
in the land of the living.**

I believed, even when I said,
“I am greatly afflicted.”
Precious in the eyes of the LORD
is the death of his faithful ones.

**I will walk before the Lord,
in the land of the living.**

O LORD, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the son of your handmaid;
you have loosed my bonds.
To you will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving,
and I will call upon the name of the LORD.

**I will walk before the Lord,
in the land of the living.**

My vows to the LORD I will pay
in the presence of all his people,
In the courts of the house of the LORD,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.

**I will walk before the Lord,
in the land of the living.**

Second reading: Romans 8:31b-34

Brothers and sisters: If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him?

Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us, who will condemn? Christ Jesus it is who died — or, rather, was raised — who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, “Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.” Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.

As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Second Week of Lent—Silence

This week’s readings from our Lenten Journey: “return” Meditation Guide focus on SILENCE. Following are some benefits of SILENCE.

1. **Silence Helps You Concentrate**—A silent environment or one with just a little background noise will help you concentrate the best.
2. **Silence and Creativity**—Some of the best creative work happens when the outside world is shut out and your craft gets all the focus.
3. **Awareness is Achieved Through Silence**—Taking time to self-reflect will help you figure out if your life is working the way you’d like it to.
4. **Silence Provides You with a Sense of Calm**—A period of silence each day allows the chance to relax and reduce stress levels.
5. **Productivity and Silence**—Research suggests that doing nothing and remaining silent has been reported to increase the production of new brain cells. Taking time to daydream may actually improve your productivity tenfold.
6. **Silence Gives You More Patience**—Learning to enjoy silence cultivates calmness and peacefulness. When regularly practiced, your tolerance levels for becoming impatient will likely grow too. When you learn to savor silent moments, you’ll have more patience in daily hassles.

**Congratulations Upon Receiving the
Sacrament of First Reconciliation**

**Lauryn Adams Margaret Andra
Jonas Frieburger Carolyn Morgan
Mack Park**

Thank you to their parents for being their first teachers and continuing to encourage their growth in the faith.

Breaking Bread 2021 eMissal App

A digital worship aid for use at home and in church.

- ♦ Access to music, readings, and the Order of Mass
- ♦ For those participating in livestreamed Mass
- ♦ Approved for use in church by the USCCB during the 2021 liturgical year
- ♦ Available for all iOS and Android users on their smartphones and tablets
- ♦ Only \$4.99 for the year

For more information visit: www.ocp.org/en-us/breaking-bread-emissal

Mission Proclamation**Vision**

In the image of Jesus the “cornerstone,”

St. Mary of the Visitation Church was formed with the “living stones” of Catholic Faith in North Alabama. Building on our historic past, yet set amid space age technology, we continue to be pioneers of faith by reaching out and ministering to the needs of others in the spirit of Mary and Elizabeth of the Visitation scriptural account.

Mission

We believe God calls us into a life of faith, hope, and charity. We accept this call to life through our baptism and your grace to form a community to hear and witness the Good News, to celebrate our faith through prayer and sacrament, to sustain this community through friendship and service, to encourage lifelong spiritual growth through Christian formation.

Sharing our material and spiritual blessings with all who need to hear God’s invitation to love, We embrace the gospel charge to make disciples and strive to be more Christ-like.


To live this life of love and justice, we commit our gifts of time, talent, and treasure.

We, the people of St. Mary of the Visitation, strive to fulfill this mission through the guidance and grace of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Lenten Confessions/Penance Services

Date	Time	Parish	Event
Mon March 8	5:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Good Shepherd in Huntsville	Confessions
Mon March 15	5:00 PM – 7:00 PM	St. Joseph in Huntsville	Confessions
Wed March 24	6:00 PM	St. Paul in Athens	Penance Service
Thur March 25	6:30 PM – 8:00 PM	Mercy Parish in Madison	Penance Service
Sat March 27	10:00 AM – Noon	St. Mary of the Visitation in Huntsville	Penance Service
Mon March 29	5:00 PM – 8:00 PM	St. John the Baptist in Madison	Confessions
Thur April 1 (Holy Thursday)	9:15 AM 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM	St. John the Baptist in Madison	Confessions
Fri April 2 (Good Friday)	9:15 AM 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM	St. John the Baptist in Madison	Confessions

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