

St. Mary of the Visitation

Huntsville, Alabama

January 2025 Newsletter



January—Month of the Holy Name of Jesus

Wednesday, January 1—Holy Day of Obligation
Mass times: 8:00am & 6:00pm



The Holy Name of Jesus

Reverence for the Holy Name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, arose in the apostolic times. St. Paul in his Letter to the Philippians wrote, **“So that at Jesus’ name every knee must bend in the heavens, on the earth and under the earth, and every tongue proclaim to the glory of God the Father: Jesus Christ is Lord” (2:10-11).** In invoking our Lord’s name with reverential faith, one is turning to Him and imploring His divine assistance. Four special rewards of invoking the Holy Name: 1) the name of Jesus brings help in bodily needs. 2) the name of Jesus gives help in spiritual trials. 3) the name of Jesus protects the person against Satan and his temptations. 4) we receive every grace and blessing through the Holy Name of Jesus. St. Paul said, **“Whatever you do, whether in speech or in action, do it in the name of the Lord Jesus” (Colossians 3:17).** The reverential invocation of the Holy Name of Jesus as part of prayer or work, and the recitation of the Litany of the Holy Name of Jesus still convey a partial indulgence for the reparation of sin. —<https://catholicstraightanswers.com/what-is-the-origin-of-the-holy-name-of-jesus-january-3/>

Jubilee 2025 – Pilgrimages of Hope & Spiritual Renewal

Eucharistic Consecration will be held Sunday, January 5, 2025 immediately after the 11:00am Mass. For those on the “33 Days to Eucharistic Glory” spiritual pilgrimage, this is an excellent finale for your journey. All parishioners are encouraged to attend this beautiful way to honor Epiphany (which is Jan. 6).

See below for additional opportunities to celebrate Jubilee 2025—Pilgrimages of Hope & Spiritual Renewal

January Saints & Observances

- 1-SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
- 2-Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
- 3-The Most Holy Name of Jesus
- 4-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
- 5-The Epiphany of the Lord
- 6-St. André Bessette, Religious
- 7-St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest
- 12-The Baptism of the Lord
- 13-St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- 17-St. Anthony, Abbot
- 20-St. Fabian, Pope and Martyr; St. Sebastian, Martyr
- 21-St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr
- 22-Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children
- 23-St. Vincent, Deacon and Martyr; St. Marianne Cope, Virgin
- 24-St. Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- 25-The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle
- 26-Sts. Timothy and Titus, Bishops
- 27-St. Angela Merici, Virgin
- 28-St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church
- 31-St. John Bosco, Priest

Jubilee 2025

Pilgrimages of Hope & Spiritual Renewal St. Mary of the Visitation Catholic Parish Huntsville Alabama

- **Feb. 1:** Visit three of the Madison County Parishes (Most Merciful Jesus; St. John the Baptist; Our Lady Queen of the Universe)
- **Feb. 26:** Lenten Journey Overview for New Catholics
- **Mar. 8:** Day Pilgrimage to the Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament, Hanceville AL
- **Mar. 22:** Parish Pilgrimage: Why I Love Being Catholic
- **Apr. 14-16:** Tenebrae Lenten Service
- **May 2-3:** Overnight Pilgrimage to St. Bernard Abbey, Cullman, AL
- **Jul. 19:** Day Pilgrimage to Birmingham sites (Cathedral of St. Paul, Blessed Sacrament Church, EWTN)
- **Aug. 16:** Parish Pilgrimage: Our Favorite Pilgrimage Sites
- **Sep. 13:** Visit four of the Madison County Parishes (St. Joseph, Holy Spirit, Good Shepherd, Our Lady Help of Christians)
- **Sep. 27-29:** Three day Pilgrimage to a National Shrine
- **Oct. 19-24:** Six day Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mexico City
- **Nov. 2:** All Souls Mass at Visitation Columbarium
- **Dec. 15:** Jubilee Celebration at Visitation

On this page are invitations for men, women, and families to join fellow parishioners and be involved in your parish community. If you haven't found a place in the ministries offered, reach out to the Ministry Coordinator at smv.ministries@gmail.com with comments and/or suggestions.

This year, the **Women's Ministry** will focus on **Renew: Living the Virtues**. All ladies of the parish are invited to the Women's Ministry on **Tuesday, January 14th, at 6:30 pm** in the Fr. Treacy room. We are a community of faithful women inspired by our Blessed Mother Mary who come together for prayer, friendship, and service. This month we have **Guest Speaker, Casey Alison** who will share her **journey of conversion to the Catholic faith**. Casey is a homeschooling mother of 9 and a former missionary to Cambodia. She and her family returned from the mission field to come into the Catholic Church. Come hear Casey's inspiring FAITH story. For more information about the Women's Ministry, contact Liz Montgomery at 281-705-6697 or elizabeth35758@gmail.com.



The St. Mary's food pantry **Advent Giving Tree** was a success again this year because of your generosity. We gave out over **120 gifts, and 30 candy bags to over 80 people** in our downtown community. We could have not made this possible without your support. Thank you so very much. May God's Blessings be with you during this Christmas season. SMV Food Pantry Ministry .

The food pantry received many needed items from "food drives" held at *The Avenue (SMV's across the street neighbors)*; the *Burn Boot Camp of Jones Valley—Anna Hess coordinator*; and *Primrose Day Care of Madison—Amy & Glenn Gallagher, owners*; (**THANK YOU!**) but we remain low on some every day items, such as peanut butter and jelly; and fruit cups. We will begin requesting these and most needed items after the 1st Sunday in January. Please check your bulletin or newsletter for those items. Our food pantry could not be successful without the weekly food donations from our very generous parishioners. **Thank you for your generous support and donations!**

The Ladies Sodality Ministry prepared and gave out Christmas bags to our homebound parishioners this Christmas season.



Did you know that you can shop and buy for the Food Pantry without leaving your home? Scan this QR code to see our Food Pantry's Amazon Wish List or type in this link: <https://linktr.ee/smvpantry>. Items will be delivered directly to the church office.

Food Pantry QR



Memorial Bricks

There are less than **60** memorial bricks (8"x8") still available in Mary's Prayer Garden. Suggested donation is \$100. **The plan, layout, and order forms are in the narthex or at the office.**

Once the remaining bricks have been engraved and installed, the bricks will be finished to completion.



All parishioners **55+** are invited to a New Year themed gathering at the Parish Hall on Friday, January 17, beginning at 5:00pm. Bring an appetizer to share, beverages will be provided. Join us in celebrating the new year with food, fun, and fellowship!

We Need You—Saturdays with God

The **Buildings and Grounds (B&G) Ministry** meets every Saturday at 8:30 am at the Office Building to take care of all kinds of repairs, improvements, groundskeeping, etc. throughout all of the Church facilities. Presently, we have around 30+ active members, and **we are always looking for hidden talents**. The contact for this ministry is Manfred Segewitz, 256.527.2278 or manfseg@gmail.com.

SMV On-line Parish Directory

Please take a few minutes to add your family picture to our parish directory. You can download the app to your phone or access it from your PC. Use the appropriate link below:

iOS - <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/instant-church-directory/id589542221>

Android - https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.instantchurchdirectory.members&pcampaignid=web_share

PC - <https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com>

Create your account using this email and then view the church directory. You can add your family picture and update your family information by tapping the Menu button on the top left of the main scene and select the Edit My Family option.

Pictures from around the Parish

If you have pictures of your ministry event or pictures from around the parish, those can be submitted along with a write-up if you choose to visitationnews@gmail .Please send submittals by the 15th of the month to be included in the next newsletter.

Pray and Play Adoration

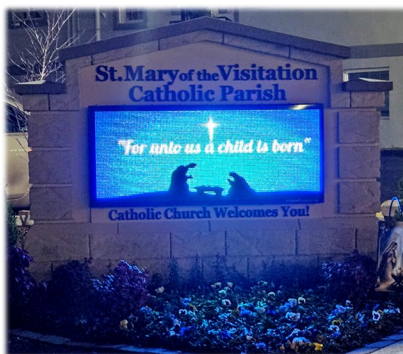


Catholic Daughters of the Americas Ministry

Our annual **BABY BOTTLE BOOMERANG** project which supports Huntsville Pregnancy Resource Center will **kick off next weekend, January 11-12** with baby bottles being distributed at the end of each weekend mass. Please take a bottle home, fill it with a donation for Huntsville Pregnancy Resource Center, which is our prolife abortion alternatives in our Huntsville area. **Return** it to us at your next weekend mass over the next few weekends as we will be collecting the bottles every weekend **through March 2**.

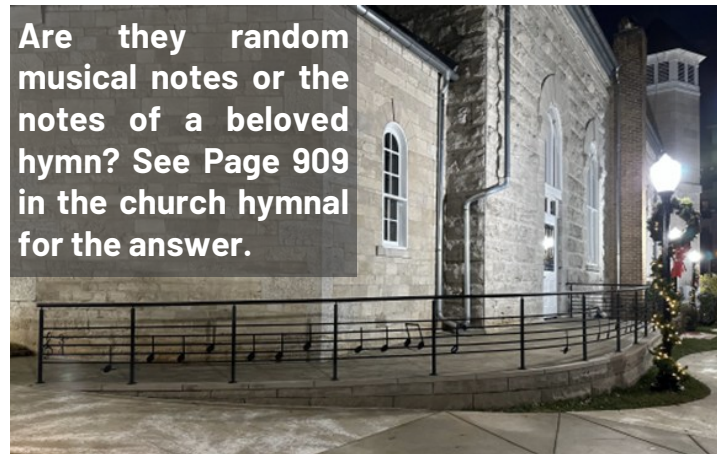


Thank you to all the ministries, volunteers, choirs, and servers that participated in the Holy Christmas Masses and the decorating of the church and grounds. Thank you to all those who volunteer throughout the year in so many different ways to support our parish community. SMV is grateful to have you and you are appreciated!



Calling all Catholic Women, ages 18 and up who have a heart to serve and haven't found their ministry yet here at St. Mary's or would like to add another one! The next monthly meeting for the **Roses of St. Mary** (Catholic Daughters of the Americas) is this coming **Tuesday, January 7, 6:00pm in the Fr. Treacy Room**. We always provide dinner for everyone. Please join us for a lively discussion to plan our first and second quarter of this new year!

Are they random musical notes or the notes of a beloved hymn? See Page 909 in the church hymnal for the answer.





Knights of Columbus Breakfast with Santa



Knights of Columbus Monthly Family Breakfast

January 19 8:30 - 10:30am



55+ Christmas Gathering



Food Fun



F E L L O W S H I P



This was so much fun last year, the St. Lawrence Social Ministry is bringing it back with all new cartoons. Bring a blanket to stretch out on the floor or grab a seat and enjoy some fun with your kids, grandkids, and parish family.

St. Mary of the Visitation
Presents a
Classic Cartoon Matinee



Sunday, Jan. 26, 2:30-4:30pm
At the Parish Hall
Snacks and drinks provided
For all ages.
Show the kids a "reel" cartoon!

For more info or to RSVP:
skibert@aol.com
Your RSVP helps us plan. Thank you!



Knights of Columbus
Monthly
Family Breakfast

January 19 8:30 - 10:30am

Newly Expanded Breakfast Menu !

Blueberry Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Buttermilk Pancakes, Bacon, Sausage, Ham, Fried Potatoes, Breakfast Dessert Muffins, Fresh Fruit, Instant Oatmeal Varieties
Hot Tea Assortment, Coffee, Orange Juice, Milk

Adults \$10, 16yrs & under \$4, Free 5yrs & under
\$30 family cap = 2 adults plus 3 or more children
Check, Cash, Credit Card

St. Mary's Parish Hall
220 Lincoln Street NE

We greatly appreciate you !

In Service to One, In Service to All

PLEASE CHECK THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR UPDATES TO THE CALENDAR.

The Most Holy Name of Jesus—January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>*Radio Control Helicopter/Plane Flying at 6:00pm every Wednesday at the Parish Hall (unless otherwise noted). *EVERY SUNDAY (Unless Otherwise Noted): Faith Formation Adult—9:15 (VH) Faith Formation Adult—9:30 (PH) EXCEPT 3RD SUNDAY Faith Formation Youth—9:30 (PH) High School Apologetics —9:30 (O) Nazareth House—9:30 (HFR) Rite of Christian Initiation Adults —9:30 (TH) Food Distribution Jefferson St Parking Lot Noon—1:00pm C-Church, HFR-Holy Family Room, O-Office, PH-Parish Hall, TH-Treacy Hall, VH-Visitation Hall</p>			<p>1* The Solemnity of Mary 7:30am Confessions 8:00am Mass & Novena 6:00pm Mass</p>	<p>2 7:30am Confessions 8:00am Mass 8:30am Ladies Sodality (TH) 6:00pm Men of St. Joseph (HFR) 7:00pm First Thursday Adoration</p>	<p>3 7:30am Confessions 8:00am Mass/Anointing 8:30am Lite Breakfast (TH)</p>	<p>4 4:00pm Confessions 5:30pm Mass</p>
<p>5 The Epiphany of the Lord 8:00am Mass 11:00am Mass followed by Eucharistic Consecration 9:30am RCIA (TH) 9:30am Nazareth House (HFR) NO Adult or Youth Faith Formation Classes</p>	<p>6 Mental Health Birthday</p>	<p>7 7:30am Confessions 8:00am Mass 6:00pm Pickleball (PH) 6:00pm Catholic Daughters (TH) 6:00pm Finance Council (O)</p>	<p>8* 7:30am Confessions 8:00am Mass & Novena 10:00am Pray & Play (email erin.townsend@gmail.com for location) 6:00pm Parish Pastoral Council (TH) 6:30pm KofC (PH)</p>	<p>9 7:30am Confessions 8:00am Mass 6:00pm Men of St. Joseph (HFR)</p>	<p>10 7:30am Confessions 8:00am Mass 8:30am Coffee Social (VH) 6:00pm The Light Ahead (TH)</p>	<p>11 11:00am Rocket City Regulators (PH) 4:00pm Confessions 5:30pm Mass</p>
<p>12* 8:00am Mass 11:00am Mass</p>	<p>13 4:00pm Quilting Class (TH)</p>	<p>14 8:00am Communion Service 6:00pm Pickleball (PH) 6:00pm Life in Faith (VH) 6:30pm Women's Ministry (TH)</p>	<p>15* 8:00am Communion Service & Novena 6:30pm St. Michael Ministry (TH)</p>	<p>16 8:00am Communion Service 6:00pm Men of St. Joseph (HFR)</p>	<p>17 8:00am Communion Service 8:30am Coffee Social (VH) 5:00pm 55+ New Year Themed Gathering (PH)</p>	<p>18 10:00am Food Pantry (TH) 4:00pm Confessions 5:30pm Mass</p>
<p>19* 8:00am Mass 8:30-10:30am KofC Family Breakfast (PH) 11:00am Mass NO 9:30am Adult Faith Formation in the Parish Hall</p>	<p>20 MLK Day "THE TIME IS ALWAYS RIGHT TO DO WHAT IS RIGHT." — MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.</p>	<p>21 7:30am Confessions 8:00am Mass 6:00pm Pickleball (PH)</p>	<p>22* 7:30am Confessions 8:00am Mass & Novena 10:00am Pray & Play (TH)</p>	<p>23 7:30am Confessions 8:00am Mass 6:00pm Men of St. Joseph (HFR)</p>	<p>24 7:30am Confessions 8:00am Mass 8:30am Coffee Social (VH) 6:30pm Catholic Homeschoolers (TH)</p>	<p>25 4:00pm Confessions 5:30pm Mass</p>
<p>26* 8:00am Mass 11:00am Mass 12:30pm Young Professionals Luncheon (tentative—to confirm, email ronanmlucey@gmail.com) 2:00pm Classic Cartoons (PH)</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 7:30am Confessions 8:00am Mass 6:00pm Pickleball (PH)</p>	<p>29* 7:30am Confessions 8:00am Mass 6:00pm St. Lawrence Ministry (VH)</p>	<p>30 7:30am Confessions 8:00am Mass 6:00pm Men of St. Joseph (HFR)</p>	<p>31 7:30am Confessions 8:00am Mass 8:30am Coffee Social (VH)</p>	