

April 21, 2024 — Fourth Sunday of Easter

Jesus the Good Shepherd

Our Gospel points us to the truth that no one could care for us as deeply, eternally or passionately as God does. If we trust in ourselves alone, we will eventually find a limit to our knowledge, our strength, or our health. Our Gospel tells us that God and God alone is in whom we place our trust. Today's second reading tells us that God loves us as His own daughters and sons. In the Gospel Jesus the good shepherd is willing to lay down his life for us. We must believe in that love. We must believe it when we are discouraged and frightened, when we've failed or lost our way, when we're struggling with loss or sickness or bitterness. God will not forget us. God will not abandon us. God loves us. That is our hope and our salvation.

Jesus does not want to push us. He wants to lead us. If his purpose was to force us to the place we need to go, we would be cows and he would be the herdsman. But he says that he is the shepherd and we are the sheep. He calls us sheep because he wants to attract us by the sound of his voice, so that trusting him we might follow him into the Kingdom of God.

Jesus is saying that He is the good shepherd and that He cares for His sheep. He knows us by name. He takes a personal interest in us. He does not see us as someone else's business, and Jesus tells us that He is willing to lay down His life for his sheep. As He said, "Greater love has no person than to lay down His life for another." A young boy at a parish school was given a month to memorize Psalm 23. He was to recite it at a school assembly, with the pastor and all the parents attending. When the big night came, he stood up and began, "The Lord is my shepherd," and then his mind went blank. The whole crowd was just waiting to hear his next sentence. Poor boy he completely forgot. Finally, he started again, "The Lord is my Shepherd." He paused, and then said, "And that is all I need to know." After a few moments of silence, the whole crowd applauded because the child was right. The Lord is our shepherd, and that is all we need to know.

Yes, my dear brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ, that's all we need to know and to understand. Jesus is our Good Shepherd who understands us much more than anybody else in this whole world, who loves us more than anyone in this whole entire world.

Love and prayers, Fr. Charley

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday Celebrations:

Saturday: 5:00pm (Vigil) Church
Sunday: 8:00am Church & 10:00am Church
Rosary: Saturday: 4:30pm /Sunday: 7:30am /9:25am
Weekday Mass Schedule

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: St. Joseph Chapel

Rosary: 11:30 am before Noon Mass

Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday 3:30—4:30pm

Important Messages

First Friday-Healing Mass/Noon-Church Exposition of the Holy Eucharist 11:00am First Saturday morning Mass

8:00am, in the Chapel

Adoration of the Holy Eucharist at 7:30am

WEEKLY READINGS

Sunday—April 21

Fourth Sunday of Easter Acts 4: 8-12/1Jn 3: 1-2/Jn 10: 11-18

Monday-April 22

Easter Weekday Acts 11: 1-18/Jn 10: 1-10

Tuesday-April 23

Easter Weekday Acts 11: 19-26/Jn 10: 22-30

Wednesday-April 24

Easter Weekday Acts 12: 24-13: 5a/Jn 12: 44-50

Thursday-April 25

St. Mark, the Evangelist 1Pt 5: 5b-14/Mk 16: 15-20

Friday-April 26

Easter Weekday Acts 13: 26-33/Jn 14: 1-6

Saturday-April 27

Easter Weekday Acts 13: 44-52/Jn 14: 7-14

Sunday-April 28

Fifth Sunday of Easter Acts 9: 26-31/1Jn 3: 18-24/Jn 15: 1-8



NITE AT THE RACES @ OLQU

Fund Raiser

April 27 5:45

Please join your Parish Family at this very fun and rowdy event! Horses will be sold after all the Masses. Horses are \$25.00 each. There will be food and drink available to purchase. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer please call Orlando Herrera 256-990-7212 or ask anyone from the men's club.

Baptisms

Sunday, March 31st Calson & Madison Achale. Their parents are Mbeng and Caroline Agbor-Achale and Godparents are Emanuel Enjong and Jacqueline Tatow.

Wedding Anniversaries

Joseph & Eva Andrzejewski, Gary & Matilde Braman, Fausto & Violet Vidaurri, David & Janet Zajac



Let us Pray for the Living and the Deceased

For the living:

Mary Wheeler, Peter Quintanilla, Patricia Thomas, Mary Lou Zurowski, Margaret Dorsey, Carol Martin, Mark Blackburn, Fred Pokrzywa, Rita Redoblado, Deacon Larry Howell, Norm Marsh, Helen Bill-Cash, Mariquita Tainatongo, Jose Cuevas, Rev. Nelo Letoand all those in our parish community in need of physical or spiritual healing.

MASS INTENTIONS

If you wish to have a loved one remembered during the liturgy for any special occasion such as a birthday, anniversary, get well, deceased etc. Contact the Parish office at 256-852-0788.

Sat.	Apr.20	5:00PM	Michael Smith †
Sun.	Apr.21		Maria Yi † Austin Mann † Brandon Stewart †
Tues.	Apr. 23	12:00PM	Katie Whittekind †
Wed.	Apr.24	12:00PM	Michael Sperando †
Thurs.	Apr.25	12:00PM	Brandon Stewart †
Fri.	Apr.26	12:00PM	John Ivey†
Sat.	Apr.27	5:00PM	The Vu Family†
Sun.	Apr. 28		Michael Thomas † Paul Lamont † John O'Brien †

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thurs. Apr. 25	Bible Study Taize Night Prayer Prayer Group	9:30AM 6:00PM 7:00PM
Sat. Apr. 27	Nite at the Races	6:00PM
Sun. Apr. 28	St. Francis, St. Cecila & Youth Little Italy on Ice Party	Group/ 5:00PM
Fri. May 3	Healing Mass NO St. Andrew's Table	12Noon
Sat. May 4	NO BVM Mass	
Sun. May 12	Mother's Day Breakfast	8:45AM

Thank you Dr. Short and family for the beautiful Stations of the Cross for our OLQU Chapel.



Altar Flowers may be donated in memory or in honor of a loved one or to mark a special occasion. Contact Beth Anderson at 256-852-8734 or the parish office at 256-852-0788 to schedule a date.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Youth Religious Education: Sundays 11:00 AM -12:00 PM

Mrs. Susan Turner (susan@olqu.org)



SACRAMENT of CONFIRMATION

Please keep our candidates in your prayers as they continue their final preparation to receive the sacrament on Thurs., April 25th, at St. Mary of the Visitation Church. The Mass will be at 6:00 PM for those who are able to attend and support our youth. Thank you! They are:

Cooper Acuff, Jacob Andrzejewski, Maria Chacha, Landon Duckworth, Ryan Hawk, Jalyn Hoang, Katelyn Hoang, Aleena Nguyen, Johnny Nguyen & Job Victor.

Catechists: Sharon & Mark Wiegmann, Claudia McClure and Dominic Ebelhar.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS COMING!

SCUBA Adventure will be at St. Mary of the Visitation Church the week of June 3rd—7th, for kids 4 years old (by January 1st & potty-trained) to completed 5th graders. **REGISTER by Mother's Day** so that t-shirts can be ordered on time. Please see display in the gathering area.



<u>Volunteers, welcome</u> - completed sixth graders to adults who would love to experience a fun week with great kids! Please see the VBS display in the gathering area for registration forms and the Volunteer sign-up sheet. Questions? Email Susan Turner susan@olqu.org.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

St. Joseph Parish:

St. Joseph has an opening for a Director of Education (DRE). Qualifications include, college graduate, Bilingual English—Spanish preferred, Catholic religious education background with teaching and church administrative experience, computer skills, including proficiency in Microsoft office applications and database management software. If interested candidates should submit their resume to jlubrano@salvatorians.com.

St. John Paul II Catholic High School:

The 2024 JPII Summer Camps are Open!.

www.jp2falcons.org/camps. Email Becky Plott with any questions at camps@jp2falcons.org today.

Also, Falcons Forever 2024—Class Reunion is Saturday, April 27, 2024!

Reconnect. Reunite, Remember. Celebrating Classes of 1999, 2004, 2014, and 2019. All graduates through 2019 are invited.

MUSIC * YOUTH MINISTRY * LITURGY NEWS

Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry Gatherings
5PM-7PM
pril 28 Activity Night/Pizza & Id

April 28 Activity Night/Pizza & Ice Cream Party

(St. Francis, St. Cecilia & Youth Group)
All 7th - 12th Graders Are Welcome

Homebound Ministry

This ministry demonstrates care and concern for the sick from our faith community and provides the opportunity to pray and bring communion to those who are unable to attend Mass in person. OLQU is looking to grow its team of homebound ministers to bring Christ's light to those in need. Please call the office at 256-852-0788 or email the office at office @olqu.org

Music Ministry

Folk Choir

Looking for those interested in starting a Folk Choir this summer. We need guitarists and vocalists. Wind and Brass instrumentalists are welcome to join as well. Please contact Mark Blackburn at mark@olqu.org for more information.

MINISTRIES * NEWS * EVENTS

OLQU has more options for Online Giving!

Text GIVE to 256-598-5239 or Scan the QR available in the Gathering Area or on our website, olqu.org. Our Parish also has a brochure with instructions for all Online Giving options. We will continue to send contribution envelopes to those who prefer them. If you have any questions, please contact Shirley at bookkeeper@olqu.org or call 256-852-0788

Lost and Found If you think you lost any jewelry, jackets, toys etc. at church please call the parish office. Tues.-Friday 9am—3pm.

Strengthening The Church At Home

During the weekend of April 27th and 28th. The bishops requesting Catholics across the country to contribute to the Catholic Home Missions Appeal. Please be generous in this year's appeal to strengthen the Church at home.

Mother's Day Breakfast: You are invited to breakfast on Sunday, May 12th after the 8 AM Mass. Please come enjoy good food with friends and wish all our mother's a happy day. Please sign-up in the Gathering Area.



Baptism if you have a child in need of Baptism and have not attended a class at OLQU contact Deacon Jim Multeri for information regarding when a class is available. Email him at deaconjim@olqu.org or call 256-852-0788 ext. 116.

Ministry Leads Any information you have about your ministry is welcomed for the bulletin. Dates and times of meetings, projects you are working on, new members to your ministry or anything else you want everyone to know. Submit to office@olqu.org by Monday at noon.

OLQU Office Contact Information

Reverend Charley Alookaran, Pastor

aocharley@olqu.org

Deacon James Multeri

deaconjim@olqu.org

Susan Turner, Director of Religious Education

susan@olqu.org

Shirley Bernal, Bookkeeper

bookkeeper@olqu.org

Juan Mark Blackburn SDS, Director of Music and Youth Ministry

mark@olqu.org | youthministry@olqu.org

Donna Pillarella, Parish Secretary OLQU Parish Office Contact:

office@olqu.org / Telephone 256-852-0788

OLQU Parish Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday: 9:00am - 3:00pm

Mission Statement: We, the Parish Family of Our Lady, Queen of the Universe Catholic Church, through spiritual growth and service to others, seek to follow Mary's example of doing God's will by being a loving and open community centering on the Word, the Sacraments, and the Presence of Christ in our lives.

Councils, Commissions & Ministries

Ministry Coordinator: Eva Andrzejewski	256-430-3486
Finance Council: Fran Spinelli	256-830-4135
Adult Ed. / Sacraments: Susan Turner	256-852-0788
Agape Joy: Maria Nolen	334-517-8157
Altar Linens: Pat Spinelli	256-830-4135
Altar Servers: Jared Ebelhar	256-684-8385
Arts & Environment: Beth Anderson	256-852-8734
Baptism Preparation: Deacon Jim Multeri	256-852-0788
Building & Maintenance: Joe Andrzejewski	256-430-3486
Chain Rosary: David McClure	502-759-1939
Charismatic Prayer Group: Jeff Anderson	256-852-8734
Communications: Damian Hochmuth	256-890-1621
EMHC: Maria Nolen	334-517-8157
Fund Raising: Fran Spinelli	256-830-4135
Gardening: Marge Mullen	256-683-1663
Greeters: Tom Heath	256-859-9554
IT & A/V Care: Jim Chaloupka	256-852-0788
Lawn Care: Orlando Herrera	256-990-7212
Lectors: Sybil Shearburn	256-679-7023
Life in Faith: Cindy Williams	256-509-7258
Marriage Preparation: Deacon Jim Multeri	256-852-0788
Loving Hands: Carol Lee	256-852-4095
Mass Coordinator: Pat Spinelli	256-830-4135
Men's Club: Roberto Ruiz	256-655-2509
Money Counters: Pat Spinelli	256-830-4135
Music Ministry: Mark Blackburn, Director	256-852-0788
Pastoral Care: JoAnn Harper	256-859-3330
Prayer Shawl Donna Pillarella	256-852-0788
Queen Bees: Claudia McClure	256-337-6986
Regency/Retirement: Debbie Baswell	256-503-8341
Religious Education: Susan Turner	256-852-0788
Sacristans: Pam Mefford	256-509-5000
Safety & Security Ministry: Celeste Brother	s707-365-1607
Social: Orlando Herrera	256-990-7212
St. Andrew's Table: Joanna Acker	256-721-6922
St. Vincent de Paul: Luster Ingram	256-852-2899
Ushers: Jay Hammer	256-337-1016
Youth Ministry: Mark Blackburn, Director	256-852-0788

Mass Intentions available for 2024. If you would like to have a Mass for a loved one or in honor of a special occasion please contact the office at 256-852-0788. The stipend is still \$10.

SOCIAL CONCERNS & FOOD PANTRY

St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP) Thrift Store at

2140 Jonathan Drive NW, Huntsville is in need of a truck driver. This is a paid position and would be about 20 hours per week. A CDL is not required, but a good driving record is. St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store is an Equal Opportunity Employer and rate of pay will be determined by qualifications and experience. If interested please apply in person or call 256-851-8881 and ask to speak with the Manager. The store is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9:00AM-4:00PM

NEWS

Diocese of Birmingham in Alabama

Seeks to find:

Diocesan Director of Catechesis and Christian Initiation Diocesan Director of Ongoing Catholic Formation

Chancery:

Director - Camp Tekakwitha

Maintenance Technician—Camp Tekakwitha

Send resume to PO Box 12047 Birmingham, AL 35202-2047 or www.bhamdiocese.org and go to links.

Homeschool Graduation Mass

St. Mary of the Visitation is hosting a homeschool graduation Mass on May 25th at 10AM. All homeschoolers and families are welcome. Reception to follow. Please contact Jackie Henderson to sign up. Cjadk@aol.com or call 251-602-6963.

Mercy Parish 2nd Bless Fest May 4-5

The fest is at 10509 Segers Rd in Madison from 9:30Am –4 PM both days with an admission fee of \$5. per family. Questions, email mercyfest@mercyparish.church.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

April 21	Seminarian Education Fund	
	St. Vincent de Paul	
April 28	Catholic Home Missions	
	Building Fund	

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

THANCIAL INFORMATION					
Weekly Estimated Expenses	\$	9,760.58			
Weekly Collection April 6/7	\$	6,548.00			
Religious Education	\$	161.00			
St. Vincent de Paul	\$	125.00			
Disaster Relief	\$	1.00			
Building Fund	\$	355.00			
Building & Renovations Fund	\$	1,484.00			
Seminarian Education Fund	\$	26.00			
Easter	\$	26.00			