

OUR LADY QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE

CATHOLIC CHURCH



April 14, 2024 – Third Sunday of Easter

The Greatest Virtue is Prayer!!

In the fourth century there lived a Christian Monk in the deserts of Egypt and his name was Abba Agathon. All the other Monks highly respected him because of his holiness and pious life. Once a very young Monk came to him and asked him which virtue was the most difficult to practice in life? He answered with a beautiful smile: "Prayer". He was a man who used to pray continuously for hours and hours every day, so the other Monks really could not understand why he would say that or what he meant. Abba, since he was a very humble man, said: Yes, prayer is the most difficult virtue to be practiced. Then he explained: We can do satisfaction with all other virtues, but in the case of prayer it is not like that. It is a struggle to keep the mind and heart fixed on God. In between, many thoughts intrude, and the devil tries his best to turn us away from prayer. That is why I said prayer is the most difficult virtue to practice. Whatever virtue we do, we can accomplish it more or less to satisfaction, but prayer is a battle to keep our minds and hearts fixed on God. And this battle will continue until death. Abba Agathon was a holy man; if he finds praying very hard, if that is the case with him, what about us, the common people? Prayer will be a great battle as far as we are concerned.

During the War of Independence in India, the Young Gandhi wrote in his autobiography: "Prayer is my life. Prayer saved me many times; otherwise, I would have been delirious (a mad man) long ago." In his public life he had many bitter experiences as well as in his personal life. They, all of them, had driven him nearly crazy or near despair. But he was only able to get out of it through prayer. For him, prayer was his life. It was the important weapon -- the weapon he used to wage war against himself and others.

Jesus showed us the best example in His own life. He used to go to lonely places and spent hours and hours with His heavenly Father in prayer. St. Paul tells us that prayer should be the most important weapon in our lives. Jesus tells us to pray without ceasing. Jesus told the parable of the judge and the widow telling us to pray without ceasing. Never ever get weary about prayer. Keep on praying or asking God -- He can never abandon you or me. The friend got up and gave bread to his neighbor not because he had pity on him, but because he continuously asked him for it.

We get peace when we unite with God through prayer. St. Paul tells us: Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4: 6-7)

Therefore, no matter how intelligent or active or courageous we are, we should not stop praying in our lives. We shall pray without ceasing and let us disturb our God, so that He will provide us all that we need. Ask and you will receive; knock and the door will be opened; search and you will find. Do not be afraid to kneel in prayer before God who can provide everything in our lives.

With gratitude, 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 14

Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 3: 13-15, 17-19/Jn 2: 1-5a/Lk 24: 35-48

Monday-April 15

Easter Weekday

Acts 6: 8-15/Jn 6: 22-29

Tuesday-April 16

Easter Weekday

Acts 7: 51-8: 1a/Jn 6: 30-35

Wednesday-April 17

Easter Weekday

Acts 8: 1b-8/Jn 6: 35-40

Thursday-April 18

Easter Weekday

Acts 8: 26-40/Jn 6: 44-51

Friday-April 19

Easter Weekday

Acts 9: 1-20/Jn 6: 52-59

Saturday-April 20

Easter Weekday

Acts 9: 31-42/Jn 6: 60-69

Sunday-April 21

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 4: 8-12/Jn 3: 1-2/Jn 10: 11-18



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.

Wedding Anniversaries

Ed & Mary Cattadoris, Deacon Jim & Sophia Multeri, David & Tania Yee



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 Leto

For the deceased:

John Ivey

and 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.13	5:00PM	The Vu Family
Sun.	Apr.14	8:00AM	Albert Rich †
		10:00AM	Asa Glass III †
Tues.	Apr. 16	12:00PM	Jim Talbert †
Wed.	Apr.17	12:00PM	Michael Smith †
Thurs.	Apr.18	12:00PM	Isabel Nisimuta (I)
Fri.	Apr.19	12:00PM	Ryan Vann (I)
Sat.	Apr.20	5:00PM	Michael Smith †
Sun.	Apr. 21	8:00AM	Maria Yi †
		10:00AM	Austin Mann †

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sun. Apr. 14	Coffee Youth Group/Discovery	8:45AM 5:00PM
Thurs. Apr. 18	Bible Study Prayer Group	9:30AM 7:00PM
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. Cecilia & Youth Group/ Little Italy on Ice Party	5:00PM



Constant Contact

OLQU Email: Our Parish uses "Constant Contact" to communicate monthly newsletters, special events, reminders and important information for our parish. If you have not been receiving these emails and would like to receive them, please send a request to mark@olqu.org or office @olqu.org, with your name and preferred email address.

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.



Volunteers welcome - 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 JP II 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

April 14 Discovery Night/Sacrifice

April 28 Activity Night/Pizza & Ice
Cream Party

(St. Francis, St. Cecilia & Youth Group)

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

THE REGINA COELI (All Stand)

O Queen of heaven, rejoice! **Alleluia.**

For He whom you did merit to bear. **Alleluia.**

Has risen as He said. **Alleluia.**

Pray for us to God. **Alleluia.**

Rejoice and be glad, O virgin Mary, Alleluia.

For the Lord has risen indeed. Alleluia.

Let us pray: O God, who gave joy to the world, through the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant that we may obtain, through his virgin mother, Mary, the joys of everlasting life.

Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Glory be to the Father (Pray three times)

(The Regina Caeli is prayed in place of The Angelus from Easter to Pentecost)

Altar Linens Ministry is in need of help! Our members launder and iron the small linens used at Mass. We work on a rotating schedule. It is a quiet way to get involved in serving our church. Instructions will be provided. Contact Pat Spinelli at spinzio05@gmail.com for more information.

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

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 Brothers 707-365-1607

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. Cjadm@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 14	Building & Renovations Fund
April 21	Seminarian Education Fund
	St. Vincent de Paul

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Weekly Estimated Expenses	\$	9,760.58
Weekly Collection April 6/7	\$	5,405.00
Religious Education	\$	507.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$	52.00
Disaster Relief	\$	72.00
Building Fund	\$	70.00
Building & Renovations Fund	\$	85.00
Seminarian Education Fund	\$	22.00
Easter	\$	630.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$	5.00
Catholic Home Missions	\$	72.00