

# OUR LADY QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE

## CATHOLIC CHURCH



### December 1, 2024 — First Sunday of Advent

#### Waiting for the Lord with Joy

Every Advent, the Liturgy of the Word gives our sense of time a reorientation. There's a deliberate tension in the next four weeks' readings—between promise and fulfillment, expectation and deliverance, between looking forward and looking back.

In today's First Reading, the prophet Jeremiah focuses our gaze on the promise God made to David, some 1,000 years before Christ. God says through the prophet that He will fulfill this promise by raising up a "just shoot," a righteous offspring of David, who will rule Israel in justice. Today's Psalm, too, sounds the theme of Israel's ancient expectation: "Guide me in your truth and teach me. For you are God my savior and for you I will wait all day."

We look back on Israel's desire and anticipation knowing that God has already made good on those promises by sending His only Son into the world. Jesus is the "just shoot," the God and Savior for Whom Israel was waiting. Knowing that He is a God who keeps His promises lends grave urgency to the words of Jesus in today's Gospel. He evokes the prophet Daniel's image of the Son of Man coming on a cloud of glory to describe His return as a "theophany," a manifestation of God. Jesus says we should greet the end-times with heads raised high, confident that God keeps His promises, that our "redemption is at hand," that "the kingdom of God is near".

The Advent season which precedes Christmas and Epiphany reminds us that we are a pilgrim people, aliens and exiles in this age who long for our true home with God in his heavenly kingdom, and who await with joyful hope the return of the Lord Jesus at the end of the age. When will the Lord Jesus come again? No one but the Father in heaven knows the day. But it is a certain fact that we are living in the end times, the close of this present age! The end times began with the first coming of Jesus Christ (his Incarnation which we celebrate at Christmas and Epiphany) and culminate in his final return on the Day of Judgment.

We shall always prepare ourselves for the coming of the King on the last day of Judgment. Also, we shall celebrate Christmas with great joy and happiness. We shall always be alert and vigilant, but not passive.

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 – December 1

The First Sunday of Advent  
Jer 33-14-16/1 Thes 3: 12— 4: 2/Lk 21: 25-28, 34-36

### Monday – December 2

Advent Weekday  
Is 2: 1-5/Mt 8: 5-11

### Tuesday – December 3

St. Francis Xavier, Priest  
Is 11: 1-10/Lk 10: 21-24

### Wednesday – December 4

Advent Weekday  
Is 25: 6-10a/Mt 15: 29-37

### Thursday – December 5

Advent Weekday  
Is 26: 1-6/Mt 7: 21, 24-27

### Friday – December 6

Advent Weekday  
Is 29: 17-24/Mt 9: 27-31

### Saturday – December 7

St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church  
Is 30: 19-21, 23-26/Mt 9: 35—10: 1, 5a, 6-8

### Sunday – December 8

Second Sunday of Advent  
Bar 5: 1-9/Phil 1: 4-6, 8-11/Lk 3: 1-6

## FAITHFILLED



Join us Wednesday, December 11, at 6:00PM, in the church as we celebrate *The Festival of Lessons and Carols*, a service of scripture and song that dates back to the late 19th century. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to prepare for the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, at Christmas.

### Fr. Charley's Christmas Baskets

If you are in need of a basket or know someone who is in need of one please contact the parish office at 256-852-0788 before December 15th.

### Wedding Anniversaries

Harold & Brenda Fulmer, Jay & Rebecca Hammer, Keith & Andrea Wheeler



### Let us Pray for the Living and the Deceased

*For the living:*

Barbara Chandler, Peter Quintanilla, Patricia Thomas, Mary Lou Zurowski, Margaret Dorsey, Helen Bill-Cash, Robert Lemley, Rose Marie Phillips, George Plattsmier, Paul Shea, Mark Wiegmann, Kim Birkett, Riley Scott 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.	Nov. 30	5:00PM	The Vu Family † Thomas & Agatha Yi †
Sun.	Dec. 1	8:00AM	William Skinner † Ed & Barbara Stluka †
		10:00AM	Robert Bergh † Robert McConnell †
Tues.	Dec. 3	12:00PM	Leon Keller †
Wed.	Dec. 4	12:00PM	Deacon Larry Howell † Jose Morales †
Thurs.	Dec. 5	12:00PM	Oscar Juan Duarte † Gustavo Matos (I)
Fri.	Dec. 6	12:00PM	Hermogenes Jr & Davina Peralto †
Sat.	Dec. 7	5:00PM	The Vu Family † Jeanette Prerost †
Sun.	Dec. 8	8:00AM	Adam Smith †
		10:00AM	Velma Glass † Deacon Larry Howell †

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Sun. Dec. 1	OLQU Breakfast	8:45AM
Fri. Dec. 6	<b>First Friday</b> Adoration	11:00AM
	Healing Mass	12:00PM
	<i>St. Andrew's Table to follow in Joy Hall</i>	
Sat. Dec. 7	<b>First Saturday</b> Adoration	7:30AM
	Mass	8:00AM
	Altar Server Training	10:00AM
Sun. Dec. 8	OLQU Christmas Party/Bonfire	4:00PM
Mon. Dec. 9	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary <b>(Holy Day of Obligation)</b> <b>NO CHAIN ROSARY</b>	7:00AM 12:00PM
Thurs. Dec. 12	Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass	5:30PM

**St. Andrew's Table** will meet Friday, December 6th after the Healing Mass. This is our Christmas luncheon!



### **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

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

Mrs. Susan Turner (susan@olqu.org)

### CONFIRMATION PRAYER CROSS

Please visit the display in the gathering area and select a wooden cross to take home with you as a reminder to pray for a confirmation candidate. The students personalized their crosses and thank you for your prayers.

Josiah Dorsey, Blake Duckworth, Felicity Ebelhar, Daniella Enyoung, Jordan Francisco, Daniel Manglona, David McClure, George Plattsmier, Brennan Pry, Isabella Scariya.

The catechists appreciate your prayers, too! Claudia McClure & Dominic Ebelhar.

### HAVE YOU TAKEN A LOOK YET?



You might be surprised to find some good movies and documentaries to watch on your family MOVIE NIGHT!

Only 86 of us are signed up...NOTE: all parishioners are eligible with an email.

You can't beat it for FREE...just sign up at **FORMED.ORG** and enjoy!



Tuesday evenings  
6:00 PM in Joy Hall

### NATIVITY PAGEANT

#### Christmas Eve 4:30 PM Mass

Dear parents: the Nativity Pageant is coming soon! Please see the display in the gathering area to put your children on the list.

**First rehearsal: December 8th - Noon**



## CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

### St. John Paul II Catholic High School

Apply to join our 2025-2026 Falcon Family! St. John Paul II Catholic High School develops students in spirit, mind, and body through a Christ-centered, college preparatory education. As a welcoming community of faith, we encourage, challenge, and support our students to learn enthusiastically, lead honorably, and live responsibly so they will improve themselves and society through their faith and vocation. Apply today at [www.jp2falcons.org](http://www.jp2falcons.org)! Please contact our Admissions Office at 256-430-1760 (ext. 117) with questions.

**Holy Family School: Give the gift of giving!** Help our kids "play Santa" for their family and friends while supporting the school. Please consider donating new or never used gift items to stock the Santa Store. Students can shop for just \$1-5/item. Donations can be given to Ruth Gorman or taken to the school by Monday December 9th. Questions, text 256-651-4533/email [rumien3791@gmail.com](mailto:rumien3791@gmail.com).

## MUSIC \* YOUTH MINISTRY \* LITURGY NEWS

### Youth Ministry

Christmas Party is December 8th at 5:00PM in the Youth Room. We will play the annual Right Family Game. Please bring a wrapped Christmas Ornament under \$5.00.

### Liturgy

Family Rosary: At Our Lady, Queen of the Universe we pray the rosary every 3rd Sunday at 4:30PM with Exposition and Adoration of the Holy Body. This is a special time set for the community of believers to adore and pray the rosary for the health of this parish. Please volunteer to help lead this time. We need 5 readers for the decades of the of the rosary and one person to ring bells. Please contact [mark@olqu.org](mailto:mark@olqu.org).

### Music Ministry

Christmas Choir Vigil Mass/Children's Mass for grades 1-12 will begin rehearsal on December 1 at 12:15PM in the Music Room. All children/youth are welcome. Rehearsals: Dec 1, 8, 15 and 22.

December 11 (Wed) at 6PM join us for *Lessons & Carols*. The Festival of Lessons and Carols is a service of Scripture and Song that dates back to the late 19th century. In this service we listen to nine Scripture lessons that recount the Fall, the promise of a Messiah, the Incarnation, and the Great Commission to preach the Good News.

## MINISTRIES \* NEWS \* EVENTS

### Ireland Pilgrimage

Fr. Charley is leading a Pilgrimage to Ireland May 25th to June 5th 2025. We still have a few spots available. If you are interested in joining this trip or would like additional information, please contact Bernard Acker at 256-701-1199 or the Church Office at 256-852-0788.



**Loving Hands:** "The humblest tasks get beautified if loving hands do them". - Little Women.

A very small group of dedicated women have carried on the task of polishing the solid oak pews and dusting/swiffering the floors twice a month ever since this church began. Would you like to join this group? Do you have time to fill in as a substitute if one of the regulars needs to be absent? We meet at 9:30AM on the first and third Thursdays of the month. Volunteers are most welcome to join us. Call Carol Lee at 256-852-4095 with any questions.

**New to our parish?** If you are visiting our parish and are interested in joining our Catholic Family, registration forms are available in the gathering area or at the parish office (office hours are Tues.- Fri. 9am -3pm). Fill one out and drop it into a collection basket or bring it to the parish office.

### Christmas Flower Envelopes

Flower envelopes available on the tables outside the church if you wish to make donations in honor of or in memory of a family member or a friend.

## 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/Sacrament/RCIA** 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

**Care Ministry:** Deacon Jim Multeri 256-852-0788

**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

**Religious Education:** Susan Turner, Director 256-852-0788

**Sacristans:** Pam Mefford 256-509-5000

**Safety & Security:** 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) Pantry

**Needs:** rice, pinto beans, canned meats, mashed potatoes, cake mix, icing, cookies, corn meal mix, pancake mix, syrup, jello, pudding, cereal, coffee, tea, toiletries. Our Christmas flyer is in this weekend's bulletin.

**PLEASE HELP US HELP THE POOR...**

**WE NEED VOLUNTEERS: 256-852-2899**

## NEWS

### EWTN

**Attention Christmas Shoppers!**

The EWTN Gift Shoppe's

Christmas Open House

Is Friday, December 12th

8 AM—5PM

5817 Old Leeds Rd. Irondale, AL 35210

205-271-2929

www.ewtnrc.com

### **St. John Paul II**

Is seeking applicants for a full-time School Bookkeeper!

www.jp2falcons.org/employment for information.

### **Catholic Center of Concern**

Is in need of monetary donations, pacifiers, soft teethers, receiving blankets, hooded bath towels/baby washcloths, baby wash, shampoo, lotion, knit and plush blankets, hats, toys, books, diapers size NB, 4, 5, and 6, baby wipes. Donations can be dropped off at:

1010 Church St NW, Huntsville, AL 35801  
(256) 963-9355



## SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

December 1	Religious Education
December 8	Immaculate Conception Building & Renovation Fund
December 15	Seminarian Education Fund St. Vincent de Paul

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Weekly Estimated Expenses	\$	9,760.58
Weekly Collection Nov. 9/10	\$	8,244.00
Religious Education	\$	75.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$	322.00
Building Fund	\$	2060.00
Building & Renovations Fund	\$	72.00
Seminarian Education Fund	\$	112.00
Christmas Flowers	\$	300.00
All Saints Day	\$	20.00
Beacons of Hope	\$	162.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$	100.00
Immaculate Conception	\$	50.00
Disaster Relief	\$	202.00