

OUR LADY QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE

CATHOLIC CHURCH



April 6, 2025 — Fifth Sunday of Lent

Man without sin may stone her first

The Liturgy this Lent has shown us the God of the Exodus. He is a mighty and gracious God, Who, out of faithfulness to His covenant, has done "great things" for His people, as today's Psalm puts it. But the "things of long ago," Isaiah tells us in today's First Reading, are nothing compared to the "something new" that He will do in the future.

Today's First Reading and Psalm look back to the marvelous deeds of the Exodus. Both see in the Exodus a pattern and prophecy of the future, when God will restore the fortunes of His people fallen in sin. The readings today look forward to a still greater Exodus, when God will gather in the exiled tribes of Israel that had been scattered to the four winds, the ends of the earth.

The new Exodus that Israel waited and hoped for has come in the death and resurrection of Jesus. Like the adulterous woman in today's Gospel, all have been spared by the Lord's compassion. All have heard His words of forgiveness, His urging to repentance, to be sinners no more. Like Paul in today's Epistle, Christ has taken possession of every one, claimed each as a child of our heavenly Father. But our God is ever a God of the future, not of the past. We are to live with hopeful hearts, "forgetting what lies behind but straining forward to what lies ahead," as Paul tells us.

Jewish law treated adultery as a serious crime since it violated God's ordinance and the stability of marriage and family life. It was one of the three gravest sins punishable by death for the Jews. If Jesus said the woman must be pardoned, he would be accused of breaking the law of Moses. If he said the woman must be stoned, he would lose his reputation for being the merciful friend of sinners.

Jesus then does something quite unexpected - he begins to write in the sand. The word for "writing" which is used here in the Gospel text has a literal meaning "to write down a record against someone". Perhaps Jesus was writing down a list of the sins of the accusers standing before him. Jesus now turns the challenge towards his accusers. In effect he says: *Go ahead and stone her, but let the man who is without sin be the first to cast a stone.* The Lord leaves the matter to their own consciences. When we are ready to be changed and transformed in Christ-like holiness - God never withholds his grace from us. His steadfast love and mercy are new every day. Through the gift and grace of the Holy Spirit we can be changed and made new in Christ. We pray that Jesus can set us free from our unruly desires and passions.

We shall prepare well for this coming Holy Week to receive His grace more and more in our daily lives by cleaning our Hearts and souls for him. Receive him with purity of heart so Easter will be a really joyful one for you this year

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 6
Fifth Sunday of Lent
Is 43: 16-21/Phil 3: 8-14/Jn 8: 1-11

Monday – April 7
Lenten Weekday
Dn 13: 1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62/Jn 8: 12-20

Tuesday – April 8
Lenten Monday
Nm 21: 4-9/Jn 8: 21-30

Wednesday – April 9
Lenten Weekday
Dn 3: 14-20, 91-92, 95/Jn 8: 31-42

Thursday – April 10
Lenten Weekday
Gn 17: 3-9/Jn 8: 51-59

Friday – April 11
Lenten Weekday
Jer 20: 10-13/Jn 10: 31-42

Saturday – April 12
Lenten Weekday
Ez 37: 21-28/Jn 11: 45-56

Sunday – April 13
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
Is 50: 4-7/Phil 2: 6-11/Lk 22: 14—23: 56

Seder Meal

The Seder Meal is a commemorative meal that honors the Jewish origins of Christianity. We will gather to recall the Passover, "deliverance," on Wednesday, April 16th at 6 pm in Joy Hall. Tickets are \$5.00 and will be available after all Masses this weekend. Please join us for this special event.



Fr. Charley's Easter Baskets

If you are in need of an Easter basket or know someone who is in need of an Easter food basket please contact the parish office by this Tuesday, April 8th at 256-852-0788

Easter Flower Envelopes are available on the tables in the gathering area. Donate in memory of, or in honor of a loved one or a friend at \$15 each. The last date to order is April 6th.



Wedding Anniversaries

Steven & Olivia Andre



Let us Pray for the Living and the Deceased

For the living:

Patricia Thomas, Mary Lou Zurowski, Helen Bill-Cash, Rose Marie Phillips, Paul Shea, Riley Scott, Fred & Margaret Dorsey, Cathy McCoy, Jean Matjazic, Teresa Wilson and all those in our parish community in need of physical or spiritual healing.

For the deceased:

Barbara Chandler

MASS INTENTIONS

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

Sat.	Apr.5	5:00PM	The Vu Family † John Deep †
Sun.	Apr. 6	8:00AM	Florence Jones †
		10:00AM	William Fideli † Phinisha Owens †
Mon.	Apr. 7	5:00PM	Jen Anne Mance †
Tues.	Apr. 8	12:00PM	The Vu Family † Deborah Gezing (I)
Wed.	Apr. 9	12:00PM	Bert Lamont † Col. Alfred Paddock Jr. †
Thurs.	Apr. 10	12:00PM	Mark Anderson (I) Larry Ash (I)
Fri.	Apr. 11	12:00PM	Marielle Lamirand † Joseph Reeves †
Sat.	Apr. 12	5:00PM	The Vu Family † RoseAnn Nussberger †
Sun.	Apr. 13	8:00AM	Michael Malloy † Barbara Chandler †
		10:00AM	Asa Glass III † Meghan Norton (I)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thurs. Apr. 10	Charismatic Workshop	7:00 pm
Fri. Apr. 11	Adoration	11:15 am
	Mass	12:00 pm
	Stations of the Cross	6:00 pm
	(Soup to go)	
Sat. Apr. 12	Church Cleaning Day	9:00-11:00 am
Sun. Apr. 13	Palm Sunday	Masses as normal
Tues. Apr. 15	No Mass	
	Vespers & Adoration	6:00 pm
Thurs. Apr. 17	Holy Thursday	7:00 pm
Fri. Apr. 18	Parish Office Closed	
	Outside Stations of the Cross	3:00 pm
	Good Friday	7:00 pm
Sat. Apr. 19	Blessing of the Food	10:00 am
	NO CONFESSIONS	
	Easter Vigil Mass	8:00 pm
	(Reception to follow)	
Sun. Apr. 20	Easter Mass	8:00 am
	Easter Mass/ First Holy Communion	10:00 am

Mass Intentions

We have many dates and times available for those who wish to schedule a Mass. Please contact the parish office at 256-852-0788. The stipend is \$10.00 per Mass.

**CONFIRMATION**

Bishop Raica will be here Tuesday, April 8th to administer the sacrament of confirmation to our young people in the RE and RCIA programs. Thank you for keeping them in your prayers as they prepare to become fully initiated into our beautiful Catholic faith.

Religious Education: Josiah Dorsey, Blake Duckworth, Felicity Ebelhar, Daniella Enyong, Jordan Francisco, Daniel Manglona, David McClure, Louis Plattsmier, Brennan Pry, and Isabella Scariya. Catechists: Claudia McClure and Dominic Ebelhar

**RCIA**

Our catechumens have faithfully studied these past months to learn about the Catholic faith. In just a two weeks they will join us in faith and receive the Easter Sacraments—baptism, first holy communion and confirmation!

Please continue to keep them in your thoughts and prayers: They are:

Susanne Bales, Sasithorn Inthasorn,
Deandre Jamar, Antonio Lopé,
and Ngoc Nguyen.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS**St. John Paul II Catholic High School**

JPII Admissions for the year 2025-2026 School Year are open. Applications will be reviewed on a first-come, first serve basis. Inspired by our patron, St. John Paul II, our Catholic High School develops students in spirit, mind and body through a Christ-centered, college preparatory education.

Visit www.jp2falcons.org/admissionsprocess to learn more about our new admissions process and timeline or contact our Admissions office at 256-430-1760 ext 117 or admissions@jp3falcons.org for more information.

Holy Family School

Applications for the School Calendar Year 2025-2026 are now being taken. Please contact HFS at 256-539-5221 or email office @hfscatholic.com with any questions.

MUSIC * YOUTH MINISTRY * LITURGY NEWS**Youth Ministry
Upcoming Events****Shadow Stations**

Shadow Stations Rehearsals continue in Joy Hall Sunday April 6th from 12:15—2:00 pm. Preparation for Palm Sunday will continue.

Liturgy**Liturgical Ministers Needed**

Altar Servers, Lectors, Communion Ministers, Ushers, decorators and Sacristans are needed for a smooth 2025 year. If you are interested in serving as a Liturgical Minister don't hesitate to get in touch with Mark Blackburn at mark@olqu.org or call at 256-852-0788.

Music Ministry**Easter Children's Choir**

The Easter Children's Choir continues rehearsal in the Church Sunday, April 6th after Religious Education. All youth grades 1 through 12 are welcome.

MINISTRIES * NEWS * EVENTS**Lenten Workshops of Spiritual Gifts and Growth**

Join us at OLQU on Thursday evenings from 7:00-8:30 pm continuing to April 10th. These are informal sessions of teaching, witness and prayer tailored to address your questions. If you have any questions contact Jeff Anderson at 256-852-8734.

March New Members

Please welcome Ngo & Vee Nguyen to our OLQU family.

OLQU Parish Registration Forms We ask anyone who is new to the parish to fill out a form and join our church family. We also request any parishioner who needs to update their family information to please take a form and give us updated information. We have many changed or disconnected phone numbers in our database. They are in the gathering area. Please help us keep our membership information correct.

40 DAYS 40 PSALMS...

Congratulations to Barbara Cassani for faithfully participating in the Psalm weekly challenge. She's our lucky winner of the drawing for the third week of Lent. Let's remember to participate in Father's challenge and put our names in the box for these remaining weeks of Lent.



OLQU Office Contact Information

Reverend Charley Alookaran, Pastor

aucharley@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

Grief Ministry: Almaretta Brislin 256-603-1213

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

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

"A bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just."
Pope Francis

SOCIAL CONCERNS & FOOD PANTRY

St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP) Pantry

Needs: Flour, pinto beans, canned meats, mashed potatoes, cookies, sugar, corn meal mix, pancake mix, syrup, jello, pudding, cereal, coffee, tea, toiletries. Please donate non perishable items only.

PLEASE HELP US HELP THE POOR...

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS: 256-852-2899

NEWS

Camp St. Bernard

St. Bernard Preparatory School

Cullman, Alabama

Camp St. Bernard has opened registration for Campers ages 6-14 for June 2025

Campers are provided with a traditional summer camp experience while spending time on the campus of St. Bernard Abbey. For more information on this unique, affordable, Catholic program visit the website at campstbernard.com or email John Arndt, the Camp Director at campstbernard@gmail.com.

Widows and Widowers Lunch

The Widows and Widowers group will meet for lunch on Thursday, April 10th at 1:00 pm at Olive Garden 3730 University Drive NW, Huntsville. Please call or text Glenda at 520-603-6708 by April 8th. Newcomers are always welcome.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

April 6	Religious Education
April 13	Building & Renovations Fund
April 20	Seminarian Education Fund
	St. Vincent de Paul
	Easter

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Weekly Estimated Expenses	\$	10,358.66
Weekly Collection Mar. 22/23	\$	5,415.00
Religious Education	\$	99.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$	387.00
Building Fund	\$	1,570.00
Building & Renovations Fund	\$	228.00
Seminarian Education Fund	\$	302.00
Black & Indian Missions	\$	47.00
Catholic Home Services	\$	50.00
Disaster Relief	\$	260.00
Easter Flowers	\$	360.00
Easter	\$	40.00