

OUR LADY QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE

CATHOLIC CHURCH



May 18, 2025 — Fifth Sunday of Easter

Love One Another as I Have Loved You

During his last supper with his disciples on the eve of his sacrifice on the cross, Jesus speaks of his glory and the glory of his Father. It is the cross which Jesus speaks of here. The cross of Jesus reveals the tremendous love and mercy of God the Father and his beloved Son for the human race. That is why St. John says in his Gospel, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life".

There is no greater glory and honor that one can offer than the willing sacrifice of one's life for the sake of another. This is the true nature of love - the total self-giving and free offering of one's life for the good of another. A mother who loves her child will do everything in her power to nurture, protect, and save the life of the child. A soldier devoted to his country's welfare, will endure any hardship and suffering and willingly sacrifice his own life to defend his people. God the Father showed the unfathomable depth of his love and mercy by willingly offering his only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, as the atoning sacrifice for the sin of the world. To ransom a slave God gave his only Son. That slave is you and I and the whole human race which is bound in sin and death and separation from God. The Lord Jesus died for our sins to bring us abundant new life in his Spirit and to restore our nature in the true image and likeness of God. God did not create evil and suffering, but through suffering he conquers evil with goodness, truth, and mercy and righteousness.

According to St. Augustin, "*God loves each one of us as if there were only one of us to love.*" God's love is direct, personal, and wholly oriented to our good welfare and happiness. Adam disobeyed because he listened to Satan's lie and deceptive promise to glory apart from God. We sin because we love ourselves more than we love God and our neighbor. Only the cross can break the curse of sin and bring full restoration of body, mind, and soul. The cross of Christ sets us free to live no longer for ourselves but for Christ and his kingdom of peace, joy, and righteousness. Our calling and privilege is to serve as Christ has served and to love and he has loved. That is the way we share in the glory of our heavenly Father who gave us his beloved Son who laid down his life for each one of us.

Let us pray: Lord Jesus Christ, your love has no bounds and surpasses everything we could desire and long for. Fill us with the fire of your love and the joy of the Holy Spirit that we may freely serve our neighbors with loving kindness and mercy. Help us to always be a Good Samaritan to others. Amen.

With 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:

Church during renovation

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 Church during renovation

WEEKLY READINGS

Sunday – May 11

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 13: 14, 43-52/Rev 7: 9, 14b-17/Jn 10: 27-30

Monday – May 12

Easter Weekday

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

Tuesday – May 13

Easter Weekday

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

Wednesday – May 14

St. Matthias, Apostle

Acts 1: 15-17, 20-26/Jn 15: 9-17

Thursday – May 15

Easter Weekday

Acts 13: 13-25/Jn 13: 16-20

Friday – May 16

Easter Weekday

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

Saturday – May 17

Easter Weekday

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

Sunday – May 18

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 14: 21-27/Rev 21: 1-5a/Jn 13: 31-33a, 34-35

OLQU African Community

The African Community at OLQU invites the church community to join them in Joy Hall on Sunday (Today) after the 10:00AM Mass for "A Taste of Africa". There will be a variety of African delicacies and information about Africa. The event is free and any donations received will be donated to the building Fund. Please join us for good food and fellowship.

2025 OLQU High School & College Graduates

Maria Chacha

Anna Anderson

Jayci Cloys

Lisa Dahl

Gregory Ebelhar

AnnMarie Garcia

Emily Huddleston

James Wiegmann

Chidimma Malizu

Anthony Torres

Marli Waldon



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, Fred & Margaret Dorsey, Cathy McCoy, Teresa Wilson, Mary Stumpe, Riley Scott, Patti Barnard, Patricia Jackson and all those in our parish community in need of physical or spiritual healing.

For the deceased:

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.	May 17	5:00PM	Michael Smith † William Skinner †
Sun.	May 18	8:00AM	Barbara Chandler † Miriam Briceno †
		10:00AM	Eugene Glass † Malynn Pullman (I)
Tues.	May 20	12:00PM	William Skinner † Jason Francisco (I)
Wed.	May 21	12:00PM	The Divita Sisters † Special Intention (I)
Thurs.	May 22	12:00PM	The Vu Family † Jen Anne Mance †
Fri.	May 23	12:00PM	Joseph Little (I) Tabitha Little (I)
Sat.	May 24	5:00PM	The Vu Family † Stephen Corsale †
Sun.	May 18	8:00AM	Barbara Chandler † Amelia Tan (I) †
		10:00AM	William Fideli † Bob Pullman (I)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sun. May 18	OLQU African Community Event	11:00AM
Tues. May 20	Marian Bells	3:30PM
Wed. May 21	St. Mary's Choir	6:30PM
Thurs. May 22	Charismatic Prayer Group	7:00PM
Sun. May 25	Memorial Day Weekend	

Father Charley

Fr. Charley has returned safely from India. He thanks everyone for all their prayers.

Wedding Anniversaries

Robert & Maria Roos



Pope Leo XIV

Pope Leo is the first Pope in history to be born in the United States. He is asking us to pray for vocations to the priesthood and the consecrated life. This last week he also reminded us all that May is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Portrait Café Directory 2025 Pictures

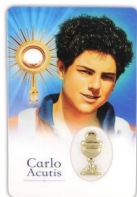
If you had your picture taken during the March session all the pictures are on the round table in the Gathering Area. There are also a few pictures left from the first session. Please take them home and enjoy them.

"The Greatest Gift"

We are hosting a morning of activities on the wonder of the Eucharist for children ages 5—12 years old.

Wednesday, June 4th, 9 AM—Noon

No fee is required; just registration info for planning purposes. St. Joseph's and St. Mary of the Visitation parishes are also participating in this special event. Please see display in the gathering area for a form or use this QR code to register online.

**Thank You!**

A very special thank you to our religious education & RCIA catechetical team for another year of dedicated service to our parish family!

They are: Anna Anderson, Karen & Rob Ruiz, Maria Roos, Maria Chacha, Jayci Cloys, Job Victor, Marli Walden, Juliana Njoku, Christine Cuevas, Debbie, Mary, & Harold Schoepflin, Christine Dennis, Celeste Brothers, Lucille Mims, Landon, Stephanie & Jason Duckworth, Sonya Little, Carole Packard, Bridget Knatt, Jeff Anderson, Suzanne Jones, Maria Nolen, Claudia McClure, Dominic Ebelhar, Steven Andre, All'Wyn Graham, Almaretta Brislin, Beth Anderson, and Rumaasha Maasha.

May God bless you with a relaxing, peaceful, and safe summer!

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

St. John Paul II announces the hiring of Mr. Michael P. Henry as the school's new Principal. Mr. Henry joins JP II with over 20 years of experience in Catholic school education as an assistant principal, educator and athletic coach in many different school districts in the Southeast.

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@hfsatholic.com with any questions.

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

Youth Group will have its annual "Game Night" on May 25th. Families are welcome to participate. We will have hamburgers & hot dogs. This will be a time for fellowship, games and food. Bring a friend, an appetite and some sportsmanship.

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

Music Ministry is offering lessons for the youth and adults of this parish. We offer 30 minute lessons for Bells, Brass, Guitar, Piano, Vocal and Woodwind. No prior experience is necessary and experienced music makers are also welcome. A reduced fee may apply for the lesson. If you are interested in lessons for your child, youth or self please get in touch with Mark Blackburn at mark@olqu.org or 256-852-0788.

Remember, Music is a special gift from God and everyone is encouraged to enjoy this art.

MINISTRIES * NEWS * EVENTS**Mass Intentions**

We have many weekday dates 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.

Wishing to get Married? Couples who want to get married in the Catholic Church are required to attend a Pre-Cana weekend. The Diocese of Birmingham has approved engaged couples to complete one of two online programs, or attend one of four weekends available at the Abbey in Cullman or one of the two weekends in the Huntsville area. For more information about the dates of the online or weekend programs, and to receive more information about Marriage Preparation at Our Lady, Queen of the Universe, contact Deacon Jim Multeri at 256-852-0788 or Email:deaconjim@olqu.org.

May: The Month of Mary

A few suggestions for this month of May as it is a good time to remember the mysteries of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Begin each day with the Hail Mary, the Memorare, the Hail Holy Queen, or the Angelus/Regina Coeli. Pray the Rosary daily and remember her for these events: The Immaculate Conception, The Annunciation, The Visitation, The Nativity, The Wedding at Cana, Our Lady of the Rosary and the Assumption. Perhaps a Novena to Mary is a good way to make the month of May special for you.

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

Pope Francis

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

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

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



WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Easter brings us new hope. Let us bring new hope to Our marriages by attending a Marriage Encounter Experience to learn how Jesus gives us the graces for a strong Sacrament. The next WWME will be a virtual one hosted by the WWME community. It is scheduled for June 6-8. A \$100 Non-refundable registration fee applies. Early registration is highly recommended. Sign up at wwme.org/apply (look for weekends in Atlanta). For more information contact: Doug & Maureen Newlands at 678-242-9963.

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.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

May 18	Seminarian Education Fund
	St. Vincent de Paul
May 25	Building Fund
June 1	Religious Education
June 8	Building & Renovations Fund

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Weekly Estimated Expenses	\$	10,358.66
Weekly Collection May 10/11	\$	6,422.00
Religious Education	\$	77.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$	100.00
Building Fund	\$	230.00
Building & Renovations Fund	\$	2,754.00
Seminarian Education Fund	\$	120.00
Disaster Relief	\$	57.00