

# OUR LADY QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE

Catholic Parish



**March 1, 2026 — Second Sunday of Lent**

## The Transfiguration of Jesus Christ

The Transfiguration stands as one of the most radiant moments in the Gospel—a glimpse of divine glory breaking into ordinary human experience. On the mountaintop, Jesus reveals to Peter, James, and John not only who He is, but who we are called to become. His face shines like the sun, His garments became dazzling white, and the Father's voice echoes: *"This is my beloved Son... listen to Him."*

Lent often feels like a long climb—our own ascent up the mountain of prayer, sacrifice, and conversion. Yet today's Gospel reminds us that the journey is not about hardship for its own sake. It is about transformation, about allowing God's grace to reshape us from within. The disciples see Jesus in glory so that when they later see Him in suffering, they will not lose hope. The same is true for us. God gives us moments of light—moments of clarity, peace, or deep prayer—to strengthen us for the valleys we must walk through.

This week, our parish enters a special time of grace with the Lenten Mission on the 5th and 6th, and Confession offered on Saturday morning from 10 to 12 pm. These are our own "mountaintop moments," opportunities to listen to the Lord and allow His mercy to shine upon us.

The 6th is also First Friday, a day traditionally dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and we will offer the Anointing of the Sick—a sacrament of healing, comfort, and strength. In these sacred moments, Christ touches our wounds, our fears, and our burdens, just as He touched the disciples with His glory on the mountain.

May this Sunday renew our desire to listen to Jesus, to follow Him more closely, and to trust that His light is always stronger than any darkness we face.

Let us Pray: Lord Jesus, on this holy day of Your Transfiguration, open our hearts to Your radiant presence. Strengthen us on our Lenten journey, that we may be transformed by Your grace. Bless our parish mission, our times of confession, and all who will receive Your healing in the Anointing of the Sick. May Your voice guide us, your light sustains us, and Your love makes us new. We ask this in Your holy name. Amen.

Love and prayers,

Fr. Charley

## MASS SCHEDULE

### Mass Schedule/Horario de Misas

Saturday/Sábado 5:00pm (Vigil)

Sunday/Domingo—8:00am & 10:00am

Rosary/Santo Rosario—Saturday/Sábado 4:30pm,

Sunday/Domingo 7:30am/9:25am

### Weekday Mass Schedule/Horario Semanal de Misas

Tuesday/Martes; Wednesday/Miércoles; Thursday/Jueves &  
Friday/Viernes—Chapel/La capilla

12 Noon/12Mediodía Rosary;/Santo Rosario—11:30 am

### Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confesiones

Saturday/Sábado - 3:30—4:30pm

### First Friday-Healing Mass/Primera Viernes Sanación Misas

12 pm/12 Mediodía

Exposition of the Holy Eucharist/Exposición del Santísimo

Sacramento 11:00am

### First Saturday morning Mass/Primera Sábado Misas— 8:00 am

Adoration/Adoración Eucarística— 7:30am

## WEEKLY READINGS

Weekly Readings can be found in the USCCB  
[bible@usccb.org](mailto:bible@usccb.org)

## LENT & EASTER

### OLQU Easter Baskets

If you are a parishioner or know a parishioner who is in need of an Easter food basket please contact the parish office at 256-852-0788 before March 15th.



**Monday Masses** Fr. Charley will celebrate Mass on Mondays at 5:00pm during Lent along with Stations of the Cross and Rosary. Please come and participate in these extra Lenten Masses.

### Lenten Confession

Saturday, March 7th OLQU will have Lenten Confession from 10:00am-12:00pm. There will be 3 Priests available during that time. There will not be the regular afternoon confessions.

### PARISH LENTEN MISSION

March 5th: 10:00-10:30 AM Almaretta Brislin  
 6:00-6:30 PM Wendy Templeton Padilla

March 6th: 10:00-10:30 AM Almaretta Brislin  
 6:30-7:00 PM Wendy Templeton Padilla

All are invited to come hear inspiring talks on how you can renew your relationship with God. The speakers will help us prepare for our Lenten confession ... moving from repentance to healing. Almaretta Brislin is a retired Catholic Educator and former Benedictine Sister. Wendy Templeton Padilla is a Certified Catholic Life Coach, author and veteran speaker.

**40 DAYS/40 PSALMS...PRAY the PSALMS with FATHER CHARLEY** this Lent via videos posted daily on YouTube, FACEBOOK, and the parish website. A weekly Lenten challenge is posted with the video. At the end of each week fill out a slip of paper at the display table and drop it in the box. Winners will receive a special gift from Father Charley. Pray, Pray, Pray!

Remember to set your clock AHEAD 1 hour at bedtime Saturday, March 7th to be on time for Mass on Sunday!!



## 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.	Feb. 27	5:00PM	James Powless † George & Gwen McClure †
Sun.	Mar. 1	8:00AM	The Vu Family † Joe Miller †
		10:00AM	Alden Stromberg † Rose Marie Phillips †
Mon.	Mar. 2	5:00PM	The Souls in Purgatory †
Tues.	Mar. 3	12:00PM	Mary Sweredoski (I)
Wed	Mar. 4	12:00PM	Steve & Daphne Stanford (I)
Thurs.	Mar. 5	12:00PM	Tom Heath †
Fri.	Mar. 6	12:00PM	Michael Smith † William Skinner †
Sat.	Mar. 7	5:00PM	Rose Ann Nussberger † Sister Karlene †
Sun.	Mar. 8	8:00AM	Joe Miller † Amara Hammer †
		10:00AM	Asa Glass II † Lori Ray †

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Mon. Mar. 2	Lenten Monday Mass	5:00pm
Thurs. Mar. 5	Lenten Mission	10:00-10:30am 6:00-6:30pm
Fri. Mar. 6	<b>First Friday</b> Lenten Mission Lenten Friday Mass With Healing Service Fish Fry Stations of the Cross Lenten Mission	10:00-10:30am 11:00am 4:00pm 6:00pm 6:30-7:00pm
Sat. Mar. 7	First Saturday Adoration Mass NO Altar Servers Training Lenten Confession (3 priests) No afternoon confession	7:30am 8:00am 10:00am -12:00pm
Sun. Mar. 8	Youth Group Activity Night	4:30pm
Mon. Mar. 9	Chain Rosary Lenten Monday Mass	5:00pm
Fri. Mar 13	Stations of the Cross Soup to go	6:00pm

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### ***“This is my Beloved Son”***

The Gospel this Sunday tells us about the **Transfiguration**. It is a mysterious episode in the life of Jesus in which he shows his closest friends that he is truly God’s Son. The shining cloud and dazzling white clothing are signs of God’s presence. The three Apostles see Jesus with Moses and Elijah, who show that Jesus is the one whom the prophets foretold. This event helps the Apostles believe in Jesus. Parents, talk this week to your children about the ways in which you believe in Jesus.

*MagnifiKid! Vol. 23; March 1, 2026; Pg. 4.*

The **MagnifiKid** missalette is available each week in the gathering area for children ages 6—12 to use during the Mass and to take home afterward.

### **ORDER of CHRISTIAN INITIATION of ADULTS (OCIA)**

We have eight catechumens and candidates (combined) that have been faithfully preparing themselves to be received into the Catholic Church through the sacraments of Baptism, First Holy Communion and Confirmation this April. Let us keep them in our prayers and look forward with great joy to the day when they are one with us in faith!

**FATHER’S SUNDAY GOSPEL COLORING CONTEST** is for students in 1st—4th grade to connect with the gospel reading each week. Coloring sheets are available at the display in the gathering area. Father really enjoys the kids participating. Congratulations to our winners for the Feb. 22nd: Nicole Neri 1st Grade, Lupita Neri 2nd Grade  
Haley Osorio Mata 3rd Grade & Laura Bawerima—4th Grade



## CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

### **Saint John Paul II High School**

JPII Admissions for the 2026-2027 School Year are still open! Apply today to be part of the Falcon family! Schedule a tour or a shadow day to learn more about what makes JPII the #1 Catholic High School in Alabama.

### **Holy Family School**

is hosting a Nite at the Races on Saturday, March 7, 2026 at St. Joseph Church/ Father Messmer Center Gym. Food and Drinks are available for purchase beginning at 6:30pm and racing starts at 7:00pm. No entry fee to attend! This is an Adult Only event. To purchase a horse for \$25 each contact Mark Wiegmann at 256-683-5462.

### **CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY at UAH**

The Catholic Chapel is located at 4310 Holmes Avenue. The Catholic Student Center is next to the chapel. Join in a small group bible study for spring semester. All are welcome.

## YOUTH MINISTRY \* LITURGY MINISTRY \* MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

### **Youth Ministry**

*Sunday, March 8th  
Youth Group will meet at  
4:30pm for activity night.*

Please contact Mr. Mark  
with any questions at  
[mark@olqu.org](mailto:mark@olqu.org).

### ***Building Fundraiser***

Starting Saturday March 7th we will begin our Queens Walkway Fundraiser. This Memorial Walkway will provide a place of prayer and reflection. The handsomely engraved bricks on the walkway will be inscribed with your name or a family name as a permanent, everlasting tribute.

You may dedicate a brick, “In honor of...,” “In memory of...” or just have a name engraved.

Through your participation, you will become a permanent part of our parish family’s history and future. Each brick costs \$75.00

Please contact the office for more information on this opportunity, 256-852-0788.

## MINISTRIES \* NEWS \* EVENTS

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

*For the living:*

*Patricia Thomas, Mary Lou Zurowski, Paul Shea,  
Helen Bill-Cash, Fred & Margaret Dorsey, Bill Andre,  
Arthur Nussberger, Donna Murray, Lisa Connor, Maria Nolen,  
Lucy Sinopole, Jean Matjazic, Kaitlyn Paceley, Michael  
Vallante, Betty Lemley and for those in our parish community  
in need of physical or spiritual healing.*



### **Wedding Anniversary**

Aaron & Kristin Berryman



### **Severe Weather**

When bad weather is forecasted for this area: icy roads, tornadoes etc, at a scheduled Mass time, please stay at home and be safe. Father Charley will close the church on these occasions.

### **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.

## 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

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

<b>Ministry Coordinator:</b> Eva Andrzejewski	<b>256-430-3486</b>
<b>Finance Council:</b> Fran Spinelli	256-830-4135
<b>Adult Ed/Sacrament/RCIA:</b> Susan Turner	256-852-0788
<b>Agape Joy:</b> Rafael Urrutia	915-227-9509
<b>Altar Linens:</b> Pat Spinelli	256-830-4135
<b>Altar Servers:</b> Jared Ebelhar	256-684-8385
<b>Arts &amp; Environment:</b> Beth Anderson	256-852-8734
<b>Baptism Preparation:</b> Deacon Jim Multeri	256-852-0788
<b>Building &amp; Maintenance:</b> Joe Andrzejewski	256-430-3486
<b>Care Ministry:</b> Deacon Jim Multeri	256-852-0788
<b>Chain Rosary:</b> David McClure	502-759-1939
<b>Charismatic Prayer Group:</b> Jeff Anderson	256-852-8734
<b>Communications:</b> Damian Hochmuth	256-890-1621
<b>EMHC:</b> Maria Nolen	334-517-8157
<b>Fund Raising:</b> Fran Spinelli	256-830-4135
<b>Gardening:</b> Marge Mullen	256-683-1663
<b>Greeters:</b> Jay Hammer	256-337-1016
<b>Grief Ministry:</b> Almaretta Brislin	256-603-1213
<b>IT &amp; A/V Care:</b> Jim Chaloupka	256-852-0788
<b>Lawn Care:</b> Orlando Herrera	256-990-7212
<b>Lectors:</b> Sybil Shearburn	256-679-7023
<b>Life in Faith:</b> Cindy Williams	256-509-7258
<b>Marriage Preparation:</b> Deacon Jim Multeri	256-852-0788
<b>Loving Hands:</b> Carol Lee	256-852-4095
<b>Mass Coordinator:</b> Pat Spinelli	256-830-4135
<b>Men's Club:</b> Roberto Ruiz	256-655-2509
<b>Money Counters:</b> Pat Spinelli	256-830-4135
<b>Music Ministry:</b> Mark Blackburn, Director	256-852-0788
<b>Prayer Shawl</b> Donna Pillarella	256-852-0788
<b>Religious Education:</b> Susan Turner, Director	256-852-0788
<b>Sacristans:</b> Pam Mefford	256-509-5000
<b>Safety &amp; Security:</b> Celeste Brothers	707-365-1607
<b>Social:</b> Orlando Herrera	256-990-7212
<b>St. Andrew's Table:</b> Joanna Acker	256-721-6922
<b>St. Vincent de Paul:</b> Luster Ingram	256-852-2899
<b>Ushers:</b> Jay Hammer	256-337-1016
<b>Women's Club:</b>	
<b>Youth Ministry:</b> Mark Blackburn, Director	256-852-0788

"Our work is to enlarge the tent and let everyone know they are welcome in the Church."

Pope Leo XIV

## SOCIAL CONCERNS & FOOD PANTRY

### St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP) Pantry

**Needs:** peanut butter, canned corn, beans, complete meals, (Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, Pasta mixes) canned meat, mashed potatoes, pasta, pasta sauce, cake mix, icing, oatmeal cookies, crackers, corn meal mix, flour, sugar, pancake mix, syrup, jelly, Jello, pudding, cereal, coffee, tea, toiletries (soap, shapoo, conditioner, etc)

We need additional help in the SVdP office on Tuesdays. if you can help one or two days a month, please contact us at 256-852-2899 or email us at help@olqusvdp.org.

**PLEASE HELP US HELP THE POOR**

### *General Information*

### Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Married Couples and Priests



Enrich and renew your Sacramental relationship by attending a Marriage Encounter Experience, a retreat where you will learn the tools to restore communication, renew your commitment, and rekindle the Joy of your Sacrament! It is the perfect Easter gift for your spouse to begin this new year.

Join us on April 24-26, 2026 at St. Bernard Abbey in Cullman, Alabama. For more info: [wwme.org](http://wwme.org) or call Frank & Kathryn at

### SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

March 1	Religious Education
March 8	Building & Renovations
March 15	Catholic Relief Services
	Seminarian Education
	St. Vincent de Paul

### FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Weekly Estimated Expenses	\$	10,595.19
Weekly Collection Feb 21/22	\$	6,567.00
Religious Education	\$	30.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$	375.00
Building Fund	\$	3,082.00
Building & Renovations	\$	180.00
Seminarian Education Fund	\$	65.00
Disaster Relief	\$	150.00
Black & Indian Missions	\$	902.00