

OUR LADY QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE

Catholic Parish



March 8, 2026 — Third Sunday of Lent

“He told me everything I have done”

The encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman at the well invites a deep reflection on what it means to be truly seen, known, and transformed by God. At Jacob’s well, Jesus crosses boundaries of culture, religion, and personal history. He meets a woman who carries the weight of past wounds and present isolation, yet He approaches her not with judgment but with a thirst—both for water and for her faith. His request, “Give me a drink,” opens a dialogue that slowly reveals her deepest longing: the desire to be loved without conditions.

This Third Sunday of Lent reminds us that conversion often begins in the ordinary moments of life. The woman came to the well simply to draw water, yet she left with a renewed spirit and a mission. Jesus does not wait for her to be perfect before offering His living water. Instead, He meets her exactly where she is and gently leads her toward truth. Her past does not disqualify her; it becomes the very place where grace enters.

The living water Jesus offers is His own life—His mercy, His Spirit, His unending love. It satisfies the thirst that no earthly relationship, achievement, or possession can quench. Like the Samaritan woman, we are invited to allow Jesus to speak into the hidden places of our hearts, not to shame us but to free us. Lent is a time to let His truth illuminate our lives, to let His mercy heal what is broken, and to let His love draw us into deeper communion.

Her transformation is evident when she leaves her water jar behind. The jar symbolizes the burdens, habits, and identities she once relied on. Encountering Christ gives her the courage to let go and to become a witness. She runs back to her community—the same people she once avoided—to proclaim, “Come and see a man who told me everything I have done.”

Let us pray: Lord Jesus, you who met the Samaritan woman with compassion and truth, meet me today at the well of my own life. Quench my thirst with Your living water and free me from anything that keeps me from You. Heal my wounds, renew my heart, and give me the courage to leave behind what no longer gives life. May Your Spirit transform me so that I may joyfully proclaim Your love to others. Amen.

With 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

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.

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!



Easter Flower Envelopes

If you wish to request Easter flowers in honor of a special person or in memory of a loved one the Easter Envelopes are on the tables outside

the church. The cost is \$15. per request. All requests must be in by Sunday, March 22nd.

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 1 at 6pm in Joy Hall. Anyone interested in assisting with the planning of this special meal please contact Mark Blackburn at 256-852-0788. More information next week.

Easter Sunday Mass on Monte Sano Mountain

Place: Monte Sano state Park Overlook

Time: 6:00 AM

Fr. Joe from St. Joseph's Parish will be officiating.

Wedding Anniversary

Nicolas & Jeana Garcia

Kevin & Lucy Nash



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.	Mar. 7	5:00PM	Rose Ann Nussberger † Sister Karlene †
Sun.	Mar. 8	8:00AM	Amara Hammer † Joe Miller †
		10:00AM	Asa Glass II † Lori Ray †
Mon.	Mar. 9	5:00PM	Barbara Cassani †
Tues.	Mar. 10	12:00PM	Steve & Daphne Stanford (I)
Wed	Mar. 11	12:00PM	The Souls in Purgatory †
Thurs.	Mar. 12	12:00PM	Joe Miller † Roger Georges †
Fri.	Mar. 13	12:00PM	The Souls in Purgatory †
Sat.	Mar. 14	5:00PM	The Vu Family † Edmund Patrick Vail †
Sun.	Mar. 15	8:00AM	Joe Miller †
		10:00AM	Robert Joseph Lemley † D'Ann Delap †

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sun. Mar. 8	Youth Group Activity Night	4:30pm
Mon. Mar. 9	Chain Rosary Lenten Monday Mass	5:00pm
Tues—Fri	Lenten Masses	11:15am
Fri. Mar 13	Stations of the Cross Soup to go	6:00pm
Wed. Mar. 18	Grief Ministry	12:30pm
Wed. Mar. 25	Tenebrae	6:00pm
Sat. Mar. 28	Church Spring Cleaning	8:30am

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, Debbie Baswell, Lucy Sinopole, Jean Matjasic, Kaitlyn Paceley, Michael Vallante, Betty Lemley and for those in our parish community in need of physical or spiritual healing.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

“Give Me a Drink” Jesus speaks to the Samaritan woman at the well about a “living water.” He explains that those who drink the water that he gives will never be thirsty again. The water will become a spring welling up to eternal life. It is the water of grace we received at baptism; the true life-giving water of faith. *MagnifiKid! Vol. 23; March 8, 2026; Pg. 3.*

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.

First Holy Communion will be celebrated on Easter Sunday, April 5th, at the 10:00 AM Mass. It's a very special event for the children, their families, catechists, and our parish family. Please keep them in your prayers: Roman Alvarez, Elaina Britt, Repella Etse, Finn Gillam, Bonnie & Bridget Gorman, All'wyn Graham, Kiara Grilly, Henry Harmsen, Nicolas Lopez, Anastasia Neri, Lupita Neri Perez, and Brayden Vu.

ORDER of CHRISTIAN INITIATION of ADULTS (OCIA)

We have eight catechumens and candidates 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!

Dale Ballesteros, Austin Benson, Vivian Bradley, Edith Perez, Brandon Garcia Santiago, Greidy Garcia Santiago, Kaileb Garcia Santiago, and Doriscela Santiago

Confirmation: Bishop Raica will be present in the parish to celebrate the sacrament of confirmation on Wednesday, April 29th at 6 PM. Please continue to pray for our students as they finalize their studies and prepare themselves to receive the sacrament. They are: Alexis Andre, Sirena Downing, Vicente Downing, Jean Etse, Robson Etse, Scarlett Folk, Isabella Homan, Liseth Neri, Jeremiah Ngwese, and Briana Wilkinson.

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 wants to thank everyone who participated in the Nite at the Races. As always much fun was had and it was a successful fund raiser.

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.

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

New Members February 2026

Please welcome Thomas & Mary Heath, Samuel & Janice Dipiazza, Jaysal Shah & Jessica Montgomery to our OLQU family.

Mass Intentions

We have dates available for those who wish to have a Mass requested for loved ones living or deceased. Contact the parish office at 256-852-0788. The stipend is \$10.00 per Mass.

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

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

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: Rafael Urrutia	915-227-9509
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: Jay Hammer	256-337-1016
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
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
Women's Club:	
Youth Ministry: 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. canned vegetables, dried beans, canned potatoes, sugar, oatmeal, canned soups, coffee, tea, Paper goods, toiletries (soap, shampoo, 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

The Catholic Center of Concern clothes closet is open Mondays and Wednesdays 9am-1pm. The diaper bank is open Monday—Friday 8 am-3 pm. Donations are accepted Monday –Friday.

Volunteers support these efforts every day. To volunteer contact info@catholiccenterforconcernhsv.org.

The emergency utility assistance program line is open Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays 9-11am and 1-3pm.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

March 8	Building & Renovations
March 15	Catholic Relief Services
	Seminarian Education
	St. Vincent de Paul
March 22	Building Fund

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Weekly Estimated Expenses	\$	10,595.19
Weekly Collection Feb 28/Mar 1	\$	8,908.00
Religious Education	\$	731.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$	87.00
Building Fund	\$	557.00
Building & Renovations	\$	135.00
Seminarian Education Fund	\$	152.00
Disaster Relief	\$	125.00
Black & Indian Missions	\$	102.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$	150.00