

OUR LADY QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE

Catholic Parish



April 12, 2026 – Sunday of Divine Mercy

“My Lord and my God.”

The Second Sunday of Easter invites us into the upper room, where fear had locked the disciples behind closed doors. Into that fear, the Risen Jesus enters with a gift the world cannot give: “Peace be with you.” This peace is not the absence of problems but the presence of Christ—wounds and all—standing in the midst of His people.

Among the disciples is Thomas, absent on Easter night and struggling to believe the testimony of his friends. His doubt is not rebellion; it is the cry of a wounded heart longing for certainty. Thomas represents every believer who has ever wrestled with faith, every disciple who has prayed, “Lord, I want to believe—help my unbelief.”

When Jesus returns, He does not scold Thomas. Instead, He invites him: “Put your finger here... do not be unbelieving, but believe.” Jesus meets Thomas exactly where he is, offering His wounds as proof of love. And from Thomas comes one of the greatest confessions in all of Scripture: “My Lord and my God.”

This is not merely recognition—it is surrender. Thomas moves from doubt to adoration, from fear to faith, from questioning to proclaiming.

This Sunday is also Divine Mercy Sunday, a feast born from the heart of Jesus Himself. The Gospel reveals that mercy is not an idea but a Person. The same Jesus who showed His wounds to Thomas now shows His wounded Heart to the whole world. His message is simple and urgent:

“Do not be afraid to draw near to My mercy.”

Divine Mercy is God bending toward our weakness, lifting us from our failures, and restoring our dignity. It is the breath of Jesus that empowers the apostles to forgive sins. It is the river of grace that flows from His pierced side—blood and water—renewing the Church and healing the world.

Today, like Thomas, we are invited to touch the mercy of Christ and to respond with faith: “My Lord and my God.”

Let us Pray: Lord Jesus, risen and merciful Savior, enter the locked rooms of our hearts and speak Your peace. Heal our doubts, forgive our sins, and draw us into the ocean of Your Divine Mercy. Like Thomas, may we recognize You in our midst and proclaim with love, “My Lord and my God.” Make us instruments of Your mercy to all we meet. 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

Chapel Chairs: We have 25 new chairs for the Chapel. If you would like to sponsor a chair they are \$500.00 each and you can make payments if you wish.

Mass Intentions

We have daily 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.

Baptism Preparation Class

Deacon Jim Multeri is holding a Baptism Preparation class on Thursday, April 16th at 4:00 pm. If you need to take this class to have your child baptized, or if you need to take a class to become a Godparent please contact him at 256-852-0788.

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.

Wedding Anniversary

Edward & Mary Cattadoris, Joseph Hudson & Lane Reno, Deacon Jim & Sophia Multeri, Luis Varga & Milly Villares



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, Arthur Nussberger, Lisa Connor, Lucy Sinopole, Kaitlyn Paceley, Betty Lemley, Ferdinand Manglona, Patrick Buckley, Jeff Carr, Krysta Harmsen, Judy Stockton, and Lori Shafer.



For the deceased:

Peter Tran brother of Kim Tran and for 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: a birthday, anniversary, get well, deceased etc. Contact the Parish office at 256-852-0788.

Sat.	Apr. 11	5:00PM	The Vu Family † Rose Ann Nussberger †
Sun.	Apr. 12	8:00AM	Amara Hammer †
		10:00AM	Enrique Ramos (I) Bobbi Simemec †
Tues.	Apr. 14	12:00PM	Charles Dixon †
Wed.	Apr. 15	12:00PM	The Souls in Purgatory †
Thurs.	Apr. 16	12:00PM	Tom Heath †
Fri.	Apr. 17	12:00PM	Bill Whalen †
Sat.	Apr. 18	5:00PM	Michael Smith † William Skinner †
Sun.	Apr. 19	8:00AM	John & Judy Malloy (I)
		10:00AM	Jane Anderson † Tom Heath †

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sun. Apr. 12	Youth Ministry Activity Night	4:30 pm
Mon. Apr. 13	Chain Rosary	7:00am-8:00 pm
Wed. Apr. 15	Grief Ministry St. Mary's Choir	12:30 pm 6:30 pm
Thurs. Apr. 16	Bible Study Charismatic Prayer Group	9:30 am 7:00 pm
Wed. Apr. 29	Confirmation	6:00 pm

Altar Flowers may be donated in memory or in honor of a loved one, to mark a special occasion or simply to donate. Please contact the parish office at 256-852-0788 to schedule a date. The donation is \$150.

Divine Mercy Sunday, celebrated on the Sunday after Easter, is special because it offers a "total forgiveness of sins" similar to a second baptism, acting as a "lifeline" for sinners (after fulfilling the requirements). Instituted by Pope John Pal II in 2000, it emphasizes God's merciful love over judgement, encouraging trust through specific graces.
(<https://www.thedivinemercy.org>)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

SACRAMENT of CONFIRMATION



Bishop Steven Raica will celebrate the sacrament of confirmation on Wednesday, April 29th at 6:00 PM. Please continue to pray for our candidates 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 Ngwsese, & Briana Wilkinson.

The OCIA Group will also be confirmed by Bishop Raica along with the high school students on this evening. They will also appreciate your prayers:

Austin Benson, Dale Ballesteros, Vivian Bradley, Brandon Garcia, Edith Perez & Doris Santiago.

“Blessed are Those Who Have Not Seen and Have Believed”

The joyful season of Easter lasts fifty days. The priest wears white as a sign of joy. We rejoice that Jesus Christ died and rose to forgive our sins and open the gates of heaven. Death has no power over those who believe in Jesus. Let us always rejoice and praise God! *MagnifiKid! Vol. 23*; April 12, 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.

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. Winners for the 5th Sunday of Lent: Elaina Britt 4th Gr. & Anastasia Neri 2nd Gr.



CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

[Saint John Paul II High School](#)

Registration for 2026 JP II Summer Camps is now open! Whether your student is looking for athletic development, academic enrichment, or creative fun, there are a variety of camps available throughout June and July this summer. Join the fun, it is open to the community. Visit www.jp2falcons.org/camps today for details or email camps@jp2falcons.org for any questions. JP II High School is seeking applicants for the following position, Head Middle School Volleyball Coach. Applicants who have the qualifications and expertise are encouraged to apply by sending a cover letter, resume/CV, and supporting employment information to Diane Olszewski at dolszewski@jp2falcons.org.

[Holy Family School](#) is holding their annual silent auction/ Soiree’ on Saturday, April 18th from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm at 2301 Beasley Ave, Huntsville. For information : <https://event.auctria.com/613dbb4e--0efd-4b2b-8ee1-31e89dcd29c1/0260453089f111ecac63a9890ba8c214>

YOUTH MINISTRY * LITURGY MINISTRY * MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

[Youth Ministry](#)

Sunday, April 12th is the next Youth Group Activity night. Please join us at 4:30pm for fellowship and fun.

[Building Fundraiser](#)

Starting next weekend, April 18th/19th 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

[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.

[Altar Servers Training](#)

Altar Servers Training meet the first Saturday of the month at 10:00 am. All training sessions are open for those who currently serve and those interested in becoming Altar Servers. If you have questions contact Jared Ebelhar at 256-684-8385.

[Bulletin](#)

Reminder: The bulletin is printed on Thursdays. Please make sure any information you wish to have in the bulletin is in the parish office 10 days prior to the date you want your news to be published.

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. Vincent de Paul needs: canned meats, complete meals (Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, etc) spaghetti, pasta sauce with meat, canned or mashed potatoes, sugar, oatmeal, cake mix, pancake mix, syrup, jelly, Jello, pudding, cereal, canned peas, dried beans. Paper goods, toiletries (soap, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste). We extend our gratitude to those who so graciously keep our pantry stocked weekly.

Contact email address help@olqusvdp.org.

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 or call Frank & Kathryn at 205-530-3607.

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. Center of Concern phone number is 256-963-9355

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

April 12	Building Repairs & Maintenance
April 19	Seminarian Education Fund
	St. Vincent de Paul

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Weekly Estimated Expenses	\$	10,595.19
Weekly Collection April 4/5	\$	4,821.00
Religious Education	\$	695.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$	210.00
Building Fund	\$	260.00
Building & Renovations	\$	60.00
Seminarian Education Fund	\$	115.00
Disaster Relief	\$	540.00
Catholic Home Services	\$	45.00
Easter	\$	4,502.00