

OUR LADY QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE

Catholic Parish



May 17, 2026 — The Ascension of the Lord

The Solemnity of the **Ascension of the Lord**

The Solemnity of the **Ascension of the Lord** invites us to contemplate one of the most beautiful mysteries of our faith: Jesus returning to the Father, not to leave us behind, but to lift humanity to a new dignity. The Ascension is not an ending—it is a beginning. Christ rises to heaven so that we may follow where He has gone, and so that the Holy Spirit may come to strengthen the Church.

In the Gospel, Jesus commissions His disciples to preach, baptize, and witness to the Good News. This mission is not only for the apostles; it is entrusted to every believer. The Ascension reminds us that our faith is not passive. We are called to be active witnesses—through charity, forgiveness, and courage—bringing Christ's presence into our families, workplaces, and communities.

The Lord's departure also teaches us hope. Jesus does not abandon His people. Instead, He promises, *"I am with you always."* His presence continues in the Eucharist, in Scripture, in the Church, and in every act of love. The Ascension lifts our eyes beyond the struggles of this world and reminds us that our true home is with God. Heaven is not a distant dream; it is the destiny Christ has opened for us.

As we celebrate this feast, may we renew our trust in God's plan. Like the apostles, we may not always understand the path ahead, but we walk with confidence, knowing that Christ intercedes for us at the right hand of the Father and sends the Holy Spirit to guide us.

Let us Pray: Lord Jesus, as You ascended into heaven, lift our hearts to seek what is above. Strengthen us with the Holy Spirit, that we may be faithful witnesses of Your love. May our lives reflect Your glory until we join You in the fullness of the Father's kingdom. 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

INTERNATIONAL EVENING

Let's celebrate the beautiful diversity of our parish family!



Sunday, May 31st

MASS 5:00 PM

International Rosary

International Pot Luck Dinner



Mass attendance satisfies your Sunday obligation.
Please bring a dish representing your ethnic heritage.

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.

Funerals

Please contact the parish office before finalizing arrangements with the funeral home to make sure the day and time you want are available. The contact number is 256-852-0788.

Chapel Chairs : We have 25 new chairs for the Chapel. We are still offering you the chance to sponsor a chair .They are \$500.00 each and you can make payments if you wish.

New Members April 2026

Please welcome William & Angela Koons and Vivian Bradley to our OLQU family.

Wedding Anniversary

Leon & Sharon Driggers

Eduardo Reyes & Lourdes Espinosa



Let us Pray for the Living and the Deceased

For the living:



Patricia Thomas, Mary Lou Zurowski, Bill Andre, Paul Shea, Helen Bill-Cash, Fred & Margaret Dorsey, Arthur Nussberger, Lisa Connor, Lucy Sinopole, Betty Lemley, Ferdinand Manglona, Patrick Buckley, Debbie Baswell, Elsie Andrews, Joe Cassani 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.	May 16	5:00PM	Michael Smith † William Skinner †
Sun.	May 17	8:00AM	Amara Hammer † Emelia Arreola-Boyo †
		10:00AM	Eugene Glass † Charles Dixon †
Tues.	May 19	12:00PM	Communion Service
Wed.	May 20	12:00PM	Communion Service
Thurs.	May 21	12:00PM	Communion Service
Fri.	May 22	12:00PM	Vu Family & Peter Tran †
Sat.	May 23	5:00PM	Vu Family & Peter Tran † Stephen Corsale †
Sun.	May 24	8:00AM	Jason Francisco (I)
		10:00AM	Bill Whalen † Michael Delap †

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sun. May 17	High School & College Graduates	
Tues. May 19	Vespers & Adoration	5:30 pm
Wed. May 20	Grief Ministry	12:30 pm
Sat. May 23	Pentecost Vigil Prayer Service	6:30 pm
Sun. May 31	International Evening Mass International Rosay International Dinner	5:00 pm



High School

College Graduates

Jacob Andrzejewski	Theresa Andrzejewski
Sofia Bernal	Jason Francisco
Landon Duckworth	Mary Schoepflin
Anna Mims	Lilly Scott
Riley Scott	Carlaya Chestang
Job Victor	

We wish to recognize our 2026 Graduates. Congratulations! May God be with you as you begin a new journey in your lives. The OLQU family prays for you and wishes the best for your future. God Bless You.



“I Am With You Always”

The feast of The Ascension celebrates Jesus’ return to his Father. He taught us to pray saying, “Our Father who art in heaven.” We don’t really know where heaven is but we know that Jesus is there in body and soul. We don’t see him with our physical eyes but we see and know him by faith. He is with us always through his Spirit and he is preparing a place for us near the Father. Jesus is among us as we celebrate the Mass and other sacraments. He is especially present in the Holy Eucharist, in his Word, in his Priests, in each of us by grace, wherever there is love, forgiveness, and true peace.

MagnifiKid! Vol. 23; May 17, 2026; Pg.4, 8-9. 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.

This week on **Formed.org:**

Saint Damien of Molokai: St. Damien was born in Belgium but spent most of his life ministering to lepers in Molokai, Hawaii. An incredible example of holiness, he dedicated his whole life to spreading the Gospel. Watch Dr. James Prothro and Mary McGeehan discuss the life and witness of this great saint!

FORMED.ORG is available to our parishioners.

SUBSCRIPTION EXPIRES 9/23/26

Please sign up for your individual account.

It will be cost prohibitive if our user numbers (78) don't increase.

Questions? Contact Susan Turner: Susan@OLQU.org

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.



CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

Saint John Paul II High School

Registration for 2026 JP II Summer Camps is 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 camps@jp2falcons.org for any questions.

BELLAS GIRLS CAMP

This camp is offered to girls (grades 4th—6th) to grow in friendship, confidence & their relationship with Christ all while having an unforgettable amount of fun. They will play games, have fun activities, eat yummy snacks & grow in our faith. This camp is run by Campus Minister at JP II with other JP II girls. Contact Ms. Ashley Arominski. AArominski@jp2falcons.org. Sign Up Now! jp2falcons.org/camps.

YOUTH MINISTRY * LITURGY MINISTRY * MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry will meet for their monthly meeting on June 24th from 12:15 to 2:15 pm.

Youth Ministry Facilitators

The Youth Ministry is looking for Facilitators for Youth Group activities. The youth group meets once a month on the fourth Sunday after Religious Education. If you are interested in helping to facilitate activities and meetings for our youth, please contact Mark Blackburn at mark@olqu.org or call the office at 256-852-0788 for consideration. Our youth are precious to us as a community and our future. We have the opportunity to provide a rich Catholic environment that guides them throughout their lives. This is our chance to be a part of the future of the Catholic Church.

Consecrating the United States to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

On June 11, 2026, as part of the 250th anniversary celebration of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the U. S. bishops will consecrate the United States of America to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Parishes around the country are encouraged to join the bishops in celebrating the consecration of our nation to the Sacred Heart.

MINISTRIES * NEWS * EVENTS

Why keep a rosary under your pillow?

Placing a rosary under your pillow is a common Catholic practice recommended by St. Padre Pio as a way to seek spiritual peace, protection, and Mary’s intercession during sleep. It is an act of trust and surrender, inviting Mary to be present and offering comfort through her maternal care while you rest.

Pentecost Vigil Following Jesus : Please join the Charismatic Prayer Group for quiet prayer and meditations on Luke 10, evangelism and discipleship. Saturday, May 23, from 6:30-8:30pm, following the 5:00pm Mass.

House Blessings Fr. Charley is blessing homes. If you wish to have your house blessed please fill out the form in the gathering Area or call the parish office with your name, address, phone number, and desired day of the week. We will confirm the information with Fr. Charley and call you back.

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/OCIIA: 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:	
Safety & Security: Kent Wieter	256-803-1183
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, flour, oatmeal, cake mix, pancake mix, syrup, jelly, Jello, pudding, cold /hot cereal, canned peas, crackers, dried beans and stuffing mix. Paper goods, toiletries (soap, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste). We extend our gratitude to those who so graciously keep our pantry stocked weekly.

General Information

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.

AL Catholic Center of Concern is in need of:

- Diapers (sizes 4, 5, and 6)
- New underwear for men, women, and children (all sizes)
- New socks for all ages

Center of Concern office phone number 205-963-9355

SUPER TYPHOON SINLAKU RELIEF: \$1,220 !!

A very special thank you to all who supported the bake sale with donations, purchases, and baked goods. Our parishioners from Saipan are humbled by your generosity and appreciate your kindness. Their family members on the island are deeply grateful for your help!

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

May 17	Seminarian Education Fund
	St. Vincent de Paul
May 24	Building Fund
June 7	Religious Education
June 14	Building Repairs & Maintenance

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Weekly Estimated Expenses	\$	10,595.19
Weekly Collection May 9/10	\$	8,292.00
Religious Education	\$	110.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$	315.00
Building Fund	\$	35.00
Building & Renovations	\$	1,195.00
Seminarian Education Fund	\$	185.00
Disaster Relief	\$	115.00