

Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church

Sunday, December 2, 2018 – First Sunday of Advent

Parish Staff

Pastor

Father Godwin Ani, SSJ

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Douglass Moorer,
(205) 427-7885

Mission Statement

Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church is committed to proclaiming our belief in the Message and Mission of Jesus Christ. Also, the members are committed to sharing our time, talent, and treasure through Sacramental, Educational and Pastoral ministry, Service to those in need and working for Social Justice.

Address

708 First Street, South
Birmingham, AL 35205

Contact Information

Rectory: (205) 322-1205

Fax: (205) 714-5056

Email: olf@josephite.com

Website: olfbirmingham.org

Sacraments

Baptism: Parents desiring Baptism for their children are encouraged to contact the Rectory to arrange for the required preparation class for parents and Godparents

Funeral: Please contact the Rectory for Funeral Arrangements. Funerals are not permitted on Sundays or Holy Days of Obligation.

Anointing of the Sick: If you or a family member is Sick or Shut-in, please inform the Rectory so that we may arrange to bring the Sacraments to your home, hospital or nursing home.

Marriage: For Marriage Arrangements, please contact the Rectory at least 6 months before intended marriage date.

Confessions: 30 minutes before weekend Masses or by appointment.



Mass Schedule

Weekends

Saturday Vigil 6:00 P.M.

Sunday 7:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Weekdays

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
7:00 A.M.

Holy Days of Obligation:

As announced

Eucharistic Adoration:

1st Monday of the month
6-7 P.M.

Church Membership

There are levels of Church Membership. Anyone living within the boundaries of our Parish for at least 6 months is automatically a member. Those who live inside or outside our boundaries and choose to “register” are members. “Contributing members” are those who choose to use the envelopes on a regular basis and are entitled to regular financial reports from the Rectory.

Parish Ministries

Parish Council

Peggy Polk (205) 655-4424

Finance Council

Melanie McNary (205) 908-4885

Eucharistic Ministers

Billy Shepherd (205) 640-5490

Lectors

Melanie McNary (205) 908-4885

CCD

Theresa Nalls (205) 567-3123

Altar Servers

Greta Chapman (205) 902-0429

Ushers

Keith Boykin (205) 222-2011

Music Ministry

Erma Hinton (205) 620-0787

Rubie Moore (205) 821-2370

Tanisha Jones (205) 936-0048

Jillian Johnson-Rogers 205-531-1641

Grounds & Maintenance

Garry Cauthen (205) 901-9792

Parish Ministries

Season Stars {Seniors Club}

Constance Smith (205) 591-4087

Bereavement

Lenora Bolling (205) 251-3903

Bettye Kelly (205) 942-2576

Ladies Sodality

Juanita Harris (205) 856-0515

Photographer

George Mauldin, Sr. (205) 566-3349

Bible Study

Doug Coutee (Men) to (205) 352-3533

Mary Shepherd (Women) (205) 640-5490

Knights of Peter Claver

John Bolling

KPC Ladies Auxiliaries

Lenora Bolling

RCIA

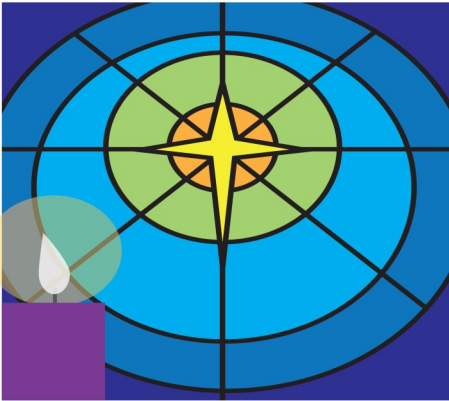
Rev. Mr. Douglass Moorer

Liturgical Dance

Louise Purdue (205) 821-4362

Sunday, December 2, 2018

First Sunday of Advent



FIRST SUNDAY OF *Advent*

How good are you at reading signs, especially signs which God sends our way? The people of Jesus' time expected that the coming of the Messiah would be accompanied by extraordinary signs and wonders. Jesus' first coming was clouded in mystery and surprising wonderment: Even though he was the rightful heir to the throne of King David, he was born in obscurity in a cave at Bethlehem, near the place where David had watched over his father's sheep some 1000 years before. A choir of mighty angels chose to announce the good news to a small band of lowly shepherds keeping their night watch nearby. Learned magi from the East, who recognized a great omen in the heavenly sky, followed the star until it led them to Bethlehem. They alone found the child with his mother and paid him homage as the newborn king of Israel. When Jesus humbly submitted to baptism at the River Jordan, the heavenly Father spoke audibly for those nearby who were willing to listen, "This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased."

Signs which point to the Lord's coming to reign with power and great glory

Jesus, during his public ministry, performed numerous signs: turning water into wine, calming the storm at sea and walking on water, multiplying seven loaves of bread in the wilderness to feed 5000 people, healing the blind and the lame, expelling demons, and raising the dead. While many believed in Jesus, many also questioned his signs and refused to believe his claim to be the Messiah sent by the heavenly Father to suffer and die for our sake and for our salvation on the cross of Calvary. Jesus' last and greatest sign during his earthly ministry was his rising from the tomb on the third day after his crucifixion. This sign demonstrated his power to defeat death itself and to give abundant everlasting life to all who believed in him.

Jesus told his disciples that his final great sign would be his return in glory at the end of the age. He would come this second time as Judge and Merciful Redeemer to vindicate those who accepted him as Lord and Savior and to punish those who rejected him. Jesus declared that this last sign at the end of the world would be unmistakable. All would recognize and "see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory." The title which Jesus most often used to describe his Messianic role was the expression "Son of Man". This title comes from the Book of the prophet Daniel, chapter 7. The image of a "Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory" was given in a vision where the prophet Daniel saw heaven opened before the throne of God. In this vision God showed Daniel a royal investiture of a human king before God's throne. This king was invested with God's authority and was given power to judge and rule over the whole earth. His reign would last for all ages.

Jesus' prophetic description of the end of time and the day of judgment was not new to the people of Israel. The prophets had foretold these events many centuries before. Jesus speaks of the second coming as a known fact, a for certain event we can expect to take place. This coming will be marked by signs that all will recognize; signs which will strike terror in those unprepared and wonder in those who are ready to meet the Lord. When the Lord returns he will establish final justice and righteousness over the earth by overthrowing his enemies and by vindicating those who have been faithful to him. The anticipation of his final judgment is a sign of hope for all who trust in him.



"Lord Jesus, may I never lose sight of the signs of your presence in my life and the signs of your action in the world today. Free me from spiritual dullness, indifference, and every distraction that would keep me from you. May I never tire of listening to your word, seeking you in prayer, and longing for your return in glory." -Amen

Stewardship Update

Last Week—November 27th & 28th
Attendance: 127



Time, Talent, Treasure

“What shall I give to the Lord for all His bounty to me?” Psalms 116:12

Serbing December 1st & 2nd

Saturday 6:00 P.M.

Eucharistic Ministers: TBA

Lectors: Pat Simpson, Pam Jacobs

Greeters: Ann Mardis

Sunday 7:00 A.M.

Eucharistic Ministers: TBA

Lectors: Beverly Beacham, Delores Germany

Greeters: John Jenkins

Sunday 11:00 A.M.

Eucharistic Ministers: TBA

Lectors: Nona Relf, Ibelia Johnson

Greeters: James Collins, Bertha Randall

Serbing Next Weekend December 8th & 9th

Saturday 6:00 P.M.

Eucharistic Ministers: TBA

Lectors: Bettye Kelly, Gary Cauthen

Greeters: Pauline Murphy

Sunday 7:00 A.M.

Eucharistic Ministers: TBA

Lectors: Conni Smith, Eddie Russell

Greeters: Alfreda Kincaid

Sunday 11:00 A.M.

Eucharistic Ministers: TBA

Lectors: Doug Coutee, Bertha Randall

Greeters: Adrian & Amarielle Mason

Daily Readings for the Week

Monday: Isaiah 2:1-5

Matthew 8:5-11

Tuesday: Isaiah 11:1-10

Luke 10:21-24

Wednesday: Isaiah 25:6-10a

Matthew 15:29-37

Thursday: Isaiah 26:1-6

Matthew 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Isaiah 29:17-24

Matthew 9:27-31



Altar Flowers

In Memory of :

Geraldine McClain, Bolling Family, Lucius Family



Donated By:

John & Lenora Bolling & Family

Prayers for Sick & Shut-In

Lenora Bolling, Gwendolyn Brooks, Albert Carson
James Collins, Mildred Hunter, Jacob Kangah,
Claudette Lewis, Jessie Nelson, Lucille Meeks,
Leroy Willis, Katherine Willis, Naulbert Nolan,
Ronald Greene, Yolanda Collins, Annie White,
Sheryl Shaw

****If you know of anyone who is very ill and confined (at home, in a nursing home or in the hospital), please contact Father Ani at the Rectory or one of these members who serve with the Pastoral Care to the Sick Ministry:
Bettye Kelly, 205-942-2576, Lela Flood. 205-798-6355, or Elizabeth Harris, 205-8338412**



You are remembered in our prayers!

Birthday Wishes!!!!



Willie Brown, Sr. 12/14
Willie Brown, Jr. 12/26
Melanie Brown 12/4
Sharon Bryant 12/23
Tracey Burns 12/31
Andria Caldwell 12/28
Shunna Cannon 12/28
Rosemarie Coleman 12/14
Delores Germany 12/5
Johnita Hall 12/21
Gwen Hall 12/23 Ryan Hall 12/29
Juanita Harris 12/23 Teresa Hawkins 12/27
Delores Johnson 12/25 Louise Kelker 12/14
Andrew Lewis, III 12/12 Jerald Norris 12/10
Roderick Palmer 12/31 Cherrye Parker 12/26
Crystal Roberson 12/13 Moses Roberson 12/3
Tina Simpson 12/9 Constance Smith 12/1
Iris Williams 12/21

*****Birthday and anniversary greetings are extended to all parishioners who are celebrating this month. (Dates are generated from the parish registration forms)**



Tom & Susan Ford **married on 12/19**
William & Debra Hill **married on 12/30**
Roderick & Debra Hilson **Married on 12/28**
Hernandez & Valerie Johnson **married on 12/19**
Bernard & Alfreda Kincaid **married on 12/31**
Trenton & Margaret Leonard **married on 12/27**
David & Carolyn Montgomery **married on 12/8**
Naulbert & Susan Nolan **married on 12/28**
Tyron & Hattie Webb **married on 12/17**

Weekly Announcements



- *First Sunday of Advent, December 2, 2018*
- *Second Sunday of Advent, December 9, 2018*
- *Third Sunday of Advent, December 16, 2018*
- *First day of winter, December 21, 2018*
- *Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 23, 2018*
 - *Christmas Eve, December 24, 2018*
 - *Christmas Day, December 25, 2018*



Congratulations to Mr. Leslie & Mrs. Mary Jackson on their 65th Wedding Anniversary!



General Announcements & Church Updates

The OLF Adult Choir is once again collecting socks for the homeless. Bins for men, women and children will be placed in the church vestibule. We are asking that you bring a new pair or pairs of socks to be donated to the respective shelters. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Parishioners, teachers are needed for Sunday School!!!! If interested or if you have any questions, contact Theresa Nalls at (205) 567-3123.



Poinsettia Memorial envelopes are available in the Vestibule. Please complete and return envelopes, along with the \$10.00 per flower donation.

We are in need of more donations for altar flowers. Please consider donating flowers in honor or memory of a loved one. Donation Request Forms are located in the vestibule. Cost for flowers is \$110.00.



Altar Flowers



Monday, December 10, 2018 at 6:00 P.M. West End Manor Neighborhood Association will host its Holiday Social at New Hope Baptist Church (1740 Cleburn Ave SW). There will be a Pound Cake / Sweet Potato Pie Contest. Please enter and win! The deadline to enter is December 9th. Please contact Jacqueline Taylor 925-3579 or Mrs. Debra Mays 427-2122 (text ok), or maysxlr@gmail.com

There will be a choir rehearsal for the MLK Prayer Breakfast for those who wish to sing. The rehearsal will be Monday, December 10, at 6:30 pm at Our Lady Queen of the Universe Catholic Church. The music will be under the direction of Rev. Dr. Charles Diggins. If you have any questions, please call Father Vernon at 205-798-5326



Parishioners are welcomed and encouraged to submit announcements, articles, stories, and pictures for bulletin. Send them by email (olf@josephite.com) or drop them by the Rectory. **The deadline for all items is Thursday by noon.** Also, if there are requests to be added to the prayer list or the monthly Birthday/Anniversary list, please contact the Secretary.