

Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church

Parish Staff

Pastor
Father Linus G. Akpan, STD
(205) 569-8767

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

Contact Information

Rectory: (205) 322-1205
Fax: (205) 714-5056
Email: olf@josephite.com
Website: olfbirmingham.org

Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday
9:00 A.M.– 3:30 P.M.

Sacraments

Masses: Saturday..... 4:00 P.M.
Sunday..... 7:00 A.M.
11:00 A.M.

Adoration of the Holy Eucharist

Every 1st Friday of the month
8:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon

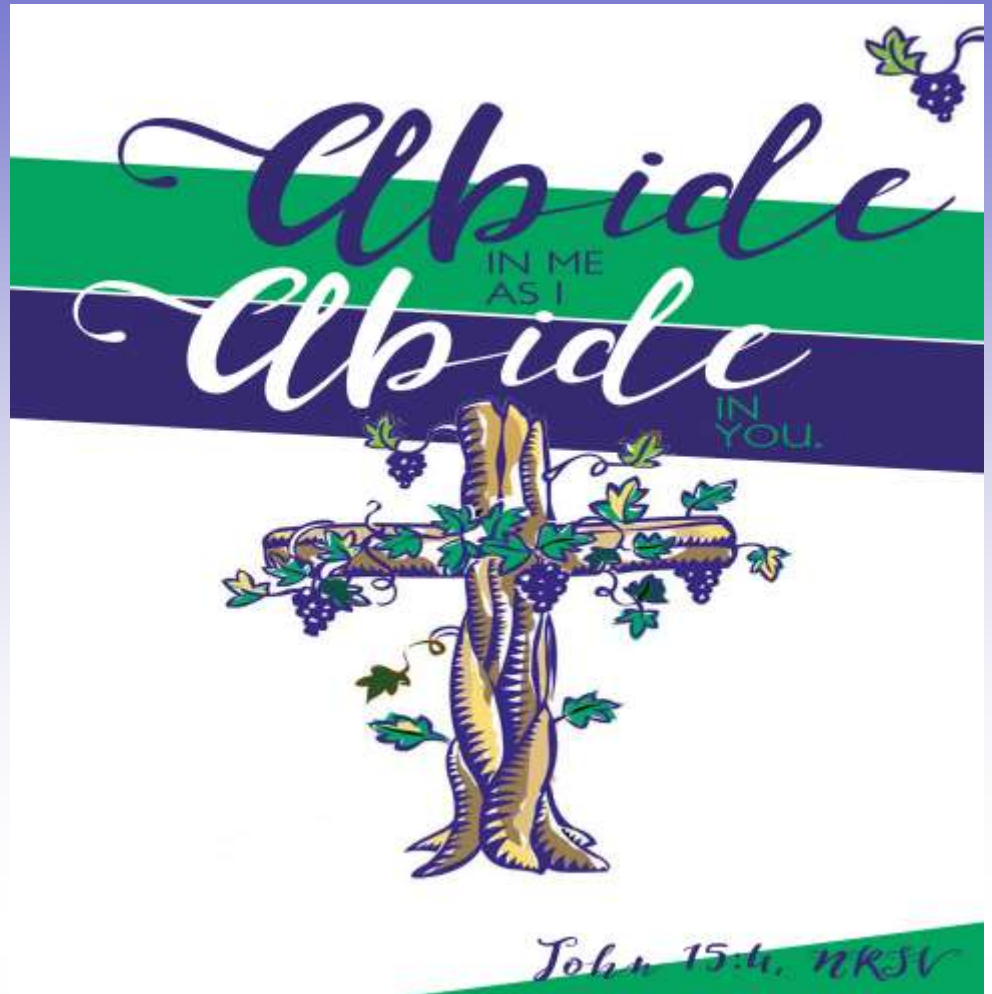
Baptism: Parents desiring Baptism for their children are encouraged to contact the Rectory to arrange for the required preparation class for parents and Godparents

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:
Saturdays 3:00 P.M. to 3:45 P.M.
Sundays 6:00 A.M. to 6:45 A.M.
10:00 A.M. to 10:45 A.M.



Sunday, April 28, 2024
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Parish 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.



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.

TODAY'S GOSPEL READING & Reflection

Abide in Me, and I in You

Scripture: John 15:1-8

Jesus offers true life - the abundant life which comes from God and which results in great fruitfulness. How does the vine become fruitful? The vine dresser must carefully prune the vine before it can bear good fruit. Vines characteristically have two kinds of branches - those which bear fruit and those which don't. The non-bearing branches must be carefully pruned back in order for the vine to conserve its strength for bearing good fruit. Jesus used this image to describe the kind of life he produces in those who are united with him - the fruit of "righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit." Jesus says there can be no fruit in our lives apart from him. The fruit he speaks of here is the fruit of the Holy Spirit.

There is a simple truth here: We are either fruit-bearing or non-fruit-bearing. There is no in-between. But the bearing of healthy fruit requires drastic pruning. The Lord promises that we will bear much fruit if we abide in him and allow him to purify us. Do you trust in the Lord's healing and transforming power to give you the abundant life and fruit of his heavenly kingdom? ?

A Prayer of Devotion

*Lord Jesus, may I be one with you in all that I say and do. Draw me close that I may glorify you and bear fruit for your kingdom. In flame my heart with your love and remove from it anything that would make me ineffective or unfruitful in loving and serving you as my All.
- Amen*



Today's Psalm

Psalm 22:25-31

25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

26 The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD! May your hearts live for ever!

27 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

28 For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

29 Yes, to him shall all the proud of the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and he who cannot keep himself alive.

30 Posterity shall serve him; men shall tell of the Lord to the coming generation,

31 and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, that he has wrought it.

Daily Readings

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31
I John 3:18-24
John 15:1-8

Monday: Acts 14:5-18
John 14:21-26

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28
John 14:27-31a

Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6
John 15:9-11

Thursday: Acts 15:7-21
John 15:9-11

Friday: I Corinthians 15:1-8
John 14:6-14

Saturday: Acts 16:1-10
John 15:8-21

Sick & Shut-In

Liz Arrington /Joycelyn Bayles/ Yolanda Collins
Rosa Lell Craig/ Belva Harris/ Elizabeth Harris
Ronald Greene/Hazel Jackson/ Shanitra Johnson
Robert Tankersley/ Vascaus Saunders/
Allen Small

Stewardship Update

April 20th & 21st

Saturday 4:00 P.M.	\$ 830.00
Sunday 7:00 A.M.	\$ 782.00
Sunday 11:00 A.M.	\$1,330.00
Mailed In	\$1,851.00
Church Improvements	\$ 385.00
Security Fund	\$ 175.00

Total: \$5,353.00

PLEASE GIVE TODAY!!!!

**2nd Collection for the Catholic Homes
Missions Appeal**

Please continue to make effort to return security envelopes weekly. If you have not received the "Security Fund" envelope, please pick some up from the vestibule.

First Friday Devotion

On the 1st Friday of every month, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from 8:00 A.M. until 12:00 Noon. Everyone is invited to participate in the Adoration of the Holy Eucharist.

Upcoming Devotion Date:

May 3, 2024

OLF News & Updates

- *May is the month of our devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. We will begin saying the rosary on May 1st.*
- May 1st is the Memorial of St. Joseph the Worker. As all fathers are under the patronage of St. Joseph, the foster father to Jesus and the husband of Virgin Mary, all men in the Parish are invited to attend Mass at **7:00 A.M. and/or 6:00 P.M.** It is a day of special blessing from the continuous sanctification of human labor.

Birthdays & Anniversaries



April
BIRTHDAYS

Genevieve Burks 4/14
Tommy Bayles 4/16
John Bolling 4/9
Michael Bell, Jr. 4/20
Willie Carter 4/11

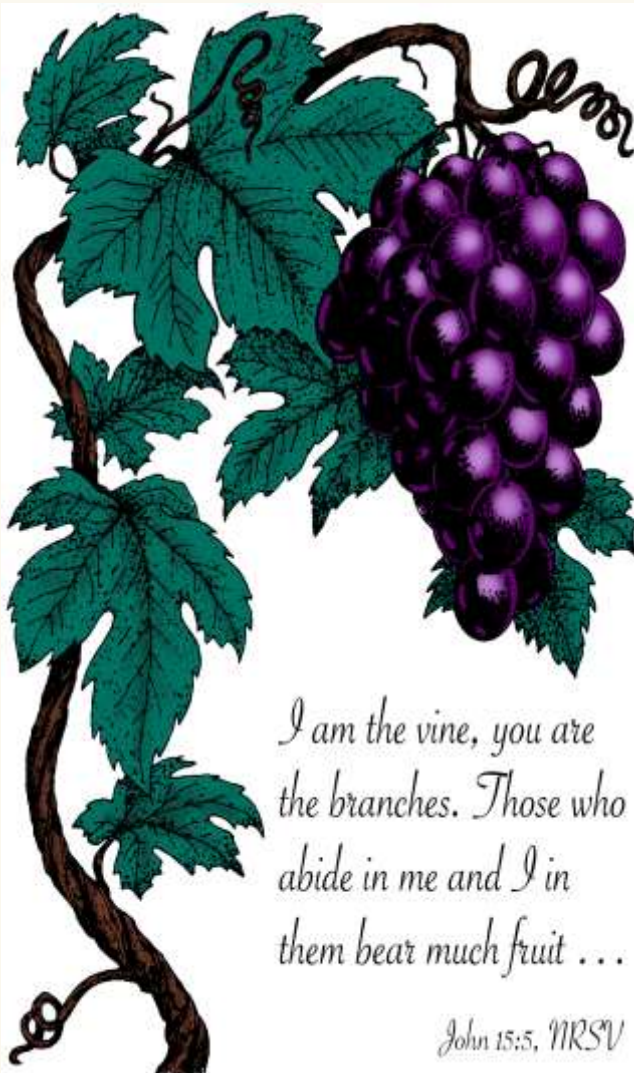
Yolanda Collins-Johnson 4/21
Aliyah Curry 4/1 Mildred Danks 4/11
Deborah Foy 4/30 Joseph Hounkpe 4/3
Bernard Jefferson 4/8 Tanecia Johnson 4/14
Vernon Johnson 4/13 Victor Jackson 4/12
Brittany Lee 4/1 Maya Leonard 4/30
Susan Nolan 4/27 Terrie Outlin 4/5
Gabrielle Prince 4/3 Erica Pruitt 4/12
Mary Shepherd 4/5 Deborah Washington 4/1
Darlene Washington 4/21 Ledger White 4/18



April
ANNIVERSARIES

Adrian & Peggy Polk *married on 04/26*

May many blessings be upon you as you celebrate another year. Happy Birthday & Anniversary to this month's honorees. May God continue to watch over you.



I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit ...

John 15:5, NRSV

Announcements



Our Lady of Fatima is looking for young, energetic, dependable boys and girls, who have already made their first communion, and want to become an “active member” at Church. If that’s YOU, please sign up for training to become an ALTAR SERVER. Altar Servers are needed for all Masses, and training will be held in a few weeks. For questions or want more information contact Dwight Russell at (205) 919-2646. I look forward to seeing your name on the sign-up sheet on the table in the Vestibule.



**Let’s Celebrate Our Graduates of 2024
June 9th 2024 11:00 A.M. Mass**

Pre-K*Elementary*Middle School
High School*College
Deadline May 26th

Please complete packets provided for you in the vestibule!

Contacts:

Kimberly Twymon 205-901-4042
kwashtington237@yahoo.com
Angela Bolling 205-914-8963
angelabolling78@yahoo.com
Nefertari Brown
nefertaribrown@gmail.com

Freedom Preparatory Academy is currently enrolling for the 2024-25 school year. Please enroll your child, if interested. More information is posted on the bulletin board in the vestibule.



The True Vine

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:5 (NIV)



The puzzle is based on John 15:1-8

R P O W M P N S I O N F J X Z
S E O G A Z Y M H A P B K G X
N S M L D R W O E P P V T P W
X C U A Y R M L X N X S A Y K
B P P L I A C R T N M F R Z A
X K R N N N A I H W O R D S J
C S U N L E D A R G J N R K X
J J N Q B A K E O L G E V Y T
B E E P W I G J W O U F Y I C
R B S W N I D Z N R O E U V E
A U Z N N H T B T Y G R X N J
N R F D P W H H J Z F N I F H
C N S I J F M K E G B V Y B G
H E Q E R H X G A R D E N E R
U D F V A E W R Z U S S G G E

WORDS	GARDENER	REMAIN	BEAR	GLORY
CLEAN	PRUNES	THROWN	VINE	TRUE
FRUIT	BRANCH	FIRE	WITHERS	BURNED