

# Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church

## Parish Staff

### Pastor

Father **Linus Akpan**  
(205) 569-8767

### Deacon

Rev. Mr. **Douglass Moorer**  
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### Address

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### Contact Information

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## 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

## 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:**

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.

Repent, for the  
**KINGDOM**  
**OF**  
**HEAVEN**  
is at hand.

M A T T H E W 4 : 1 7 , E S V

Sunday, January 22, 2023  
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

# From Darkness and Death to Light and Life

*Matthew 4:12-23*

***The "good news" brings peace, hope, truth, promise, immortality, and salvation***

Jesus takes up John's message of repentance and calls his hearers to believe in the good news he has come to deliver. What is the good news which Jesus brings? It is the good news of peace - the Lord comes to reconcile and restore us to friendship with God. The good news of hope - the Lord comes to dwell with us and to give us a home with him in his heavenly kingdom. The good news of truth - the Lord Jesus sets us free from the lies and deception of Satan and opens our mind to understand the truth and revelation of God's word. The good news of promise - Jesus fulfills the promise of God to reward those who seek him with the treasure of heaven. The good news of immortality - Jesus overcomes sin and death for us in order to raise our lowly bodies to be like his glorious body which will never die again. And the good news of salvation - the Lord Jesus delivers us from every fear, every sin, and every obstacle that would keep us from entering his everlasting kingdom of righteousness, peace, and joy.

The Gospel is the power and the wisdom of God - both power to change and transform our lives and wisdom to show us how to live as sons and daughters of our Father in heaven. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit the Lord makes it possible for us to receive his word with faith and to act upon it with trust and obedience.

***The Gospel demands a response of faith and obedience to God's gift of salvation***

In announcing the good news, Jesus makes two demands: repent and believe! Repentance requires a change of course - a turning away from sin and disobedience and a turning towards the Lord with faith and submission to his word of truth and righteousness. The Holy Spirit gives us a repentant heart, a true sorrow and hatred for sin and its bad consequences (the wages of sin is death - Romans 6:23), and a firm resolution to avoid whatever would lead us into sin. The Holy Spirit gives us grace to see our sin for what it is - rebellion and a rejection of the love of God. God's grace helps us to turn away from all that would keep us from his love.

Do you want to grow in the knowledge of God's love and truth? Ask the Holy Spirit to renew in you the gift of faith, the love of wisdom, and the heart of a disciple who desires to follow the Lord Jesus and his will for your life.

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***Lord Jesus, your ways are life and light! Let your word penetrate my heart and transform my mind that I may see your power and glory. Help me to choose your ways and to do what is pleasing to you. – Amen***

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## TODAY'S PSALM

*Psalm 2:7-8,10-11*

7 I will tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to me, "You are my son; today I have begotten you.  
8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.  
10 Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.  
11 Serve the LORD with fear, with trembling  
12 kiss his feet, or he will be angry, and you will perish in the way; for his wrath is quickly kindled.  
Happy are all who take refuge in him.

## Daily Readings for the Week

**Sunday:** Isaiah 8:23—9:3  
I Corinthians 1:10-13, 17  
Matthew 4:12-23  
**Monday:** Hebrews 9:15, 24-28  
Mark 3:22-30  
**Tuesday:** Hebrews 10:1-10  
Mark 3:31-35  
**Wednesday:** Acts 22:3-16  
Mark 3:1-6  
**Thursday:** Hebrews 7:25—8:6  
Mark 4:21-25  
**Friday:** Hebrews 10:32-39  
Mark 4:26-34  
**Saturday:** Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19  
Mark 4:35-41

## Prayers for Sick Shut-In

Joycelyn Bayles, Lenora Bolling, Yolanda Collins,  
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Craig, Rosa Lell Craig,  
Arthur Delemus, Belva Harris, Elizabeth Harris,  
Whilomena Harris, Ronald Greene, Theresa Nalls,  
Vascaus Saunders, Robert Tankersley

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*Please keep the family of Kathryn Hill in your thoughts and prayers as they mourn her loss. Mrs. Hill passed away on January, 15, 2023 and was funeralized on Saturday, January 21, 2023*



*May her soul rest in peace. Amen.*

## Stewardship Update

Last Week January 14th & 15th

Saturday 4:00 P.M.	\$ 690.00
Sunday 7:00 A.M.	\$ 944.00
Sunday 11:00 A.M.	\$2,286.00
Mailed In	\$1,313.00
<b>Church Improvements</b>	<b>\$ 470.00</b>

**Total: \$5,703.00**

## Birthdays & Anniversaries



Valencia Andrews 1/3  
Marcus Bell 1/11  
John Benjamin 1/31  
Angela Bolling 1/30  
Carol Bradley 1/3  
Andrea Colston 1/4  
Iris Davis 1/9  
Elizabeth Harris 1/27  
Mildred Hunter 1/1  
Robyn Houston 1/8  
Brantley Jones 1/7  
Brevyn Jones 1/6

Jacob Kangah 1/29 Nathan Kelly 1/30  
Harry Lee 1/14 Adrian Mason 1/11  
Adrian Polk 1/4 Cameron Nixon 1/10  
Brent Patterson 1/25 Darcy J. Prince 1/19  
Shane Sims 1/12 Shuanya Shepherd 1/26  
Arthur Williams 1/1 Karen Williams 1/21  
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## Lighthearted blessings

- May the hinges of your friendship never grow rusty.
- May the luck of the Irish lead to happiest heights and the highway you travel be lined with green lights.
- As you slide down the banister of life, may the splinters never point the wrong way.
- May you be in heaven a full half-hour before the devil knows you're dead!
- May good luck be your friend in whatever you do, and may trouble be always a stranger to you.
- May the good saints protect you and bless you today, and may troubles ignore you each step of the way.

# Weekly Announcements

WeekDay  
Worship  
SCHEDULE

Weekday Masses  
Tuesday-Friday, 7:00 A.M.  
Please Attend!

WeekDay  
Worship  
SCHEDULE

DESSERT MAKERS/BAKERS, FOOD PREPPERS AND COOKS, MEAL SERVERS, ROOM SETTERS/DECORATORS, AND CLEAN-UP/BREAKDOWN CREW..... are needed to support family repass gatherings during bereavement. Please share your special gift...it is Greatly needed and appreciated. Plans to approach a new, way of serving our brothers and sisters as they mourn and build on the service given by so many faithful members. Calling all men, women, young and mature seniors to meet on **Sunday, January 29th** in the Parish Hall at 12:30 P.M. Call/text Hernandez & Valerie at 205-937-2099 to share your interest and/or simply show up. Thanks!



## Pre-Valentine's Half-Day Marriage Retreat

Join us for a fun and engaging retreat for married and engaged couples! The retreat will take place from 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup> - Cathedral of St. Paul (Birmingham)

The event is sponsored by the Diocese of Birmingham and Worldwide Marriage Encounter and the event is FREE!

Please register at:

<https://tinyurl.com/CatholicMarriage>

Don't Miss the

**DEADLINE!**

Please don't forget that **ALL** announcements, congratulatory messages, prayer requests, and any other item you wish to have published in the weekly bulletin, should be turned in by **12:00 Noon on Thursdays!**

Please join us for the 2023 Diocesan Women's Conference - Mary: The Gate to Heaven

**Who:** Kitty Cleveland and Emily Wilson

**When:** Saturday, February 11th, 8:30 A..M. until 12:00 P.M.

**Where:** Prince of Peace Catholic Church

Admission is FREE; however, you must register for the conference. To do so, simply send an email with your name to John Martignoni:

[jmartignoni@bhmdiocese.org](mailto:jmartignoni@bhmdiocese.org). We hope you will join us for this wonderful conference and to hear these two amazing speakers!

The Office of Vocations is hosting a Priesthood Discernment Weekend Friday, February 17 - Sunday, February 19, 2023, at Casa Maria Retreat Center in Birmingham.

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This weekend experience is for men ages 18-35 years. The event is free, but registration is required. Visit [www.bhmdiocese.org/vocations](http://www.bhmdiocese.org/vocations) to register.