



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

Parish Hall Coordinators
Andrea Colston & Pam Jacobs
205.332.5171 & 205.335.7771

Address
708 First Street, South
Birmingham, AL 35205
Contact Information
Rectory: (205) 322-1205
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.

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.



First
SUNDAY
IN
LENT

March 9, 2025

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.

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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

Scripture: Luke 4:1-13

Jesus Fasted Forty Days and Was Tempted by the Devil

Luke tells us that at the end of Jesus' forty days in the wilderness one visitor came out to tempt him. Luke describes this tempter as the devil. Why did Satan tempt Jesus at the end of his lengthy period of fasting? Satan knew that Jesus was embarking on an important spiritual mission for the kingdom of God. Perhaps Satan saw an opportunity to strike while Jesus appeared more vulnerable in his physically and emotionally weakened condition due to his prolonged fasting and inner struggle over his particular call and mission. Satan undoubtedly thought he could persuade Jesus to choose his own path rather than the path his Father had chosen - a path that required self-renunciation, humility, and obedience to his Father's will. Jesus had to struggle with temptation, especially the temptation to choose his own way and to push aside the way his Father wanted him to go. This is the fundamental temptation which confronts each one of us as well. My way or God's way, my will or God's will.

What lesson can we learn from Jesus' temptation in the wilderness? How can we hope to fight temptation and overcome sin in our own personal lives? The Lord Jesus is ever ready to pour out his Spirit upon us that we may have the courage we need to repent of our sins and to turn away from them. God wants us to "fight the good fight of the faith" with the strength and help which comes from the Holy Spirit. Do you seek God's wisdom and guidance for overcoming sin and avoiding the near occasions of sin?

A Prayer of Devotion

Lord Jesus, your word is life and joy for me. Fill me with your Holy Spirit that I may have the strength and courage to embrace your will in all things and to renounce whatever is contrary to it—Amen

Today's Psalm

Psalm 91:1--2, 10-15

1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High,
who abides in the shadow of the Almighty,

2 will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my
fortress; my God, in whom I trust."

10 no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near
your tent.

11 For he will give his angels charge of you to
guard you in all your ways.

12 On their hands they will bear you up, lest you
dash your foot against a stone.

13 You will tread on the lion and the adder, the
young lion and the serpent you will trample under
foot.

14 Because he cleaves to me in love, I will deliver
him; I will protect him, because he knows my name.

15 When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be
with him in trouble, I will rescue him and honor
him.

Daily Readings

Sunday: Deuteronomy 26:4-10
Romans 10:8-13
Luke 4:1-13

Monday: Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18
Mathew 25:31-46

Tuesday: Isaiah 55:10-11
Matthew 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jonah 3:1-10
Luke 11:29-32

Thursday: Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25
Matthew 7:7-12

Friday: Ezra 18:21-28
Matthew 5:20-26

Saturday: Deuteronomy 26:16-19
Matthew 5:43-48

Sick & Shut-In

Yolanda Collins

Elizabeth Harris

Ronald Greene

Douglas Robinson

Hazel Jackson

Vascus Saunders

Allen Small

Robert Tankersley

Juanita Webb

Stewardship Update

March 1st & 2nd

Saturday 4:00 P.M.	\$2,295.00
Sunday 7:00 A.M.	\$1,211.00
Sunday 11:00 A.M.	\$4,015.00
Mailed In	\$ 735.00
Church Improvements	\$ 814.00
Sister Survivors	\$ 100.00

Total: \$9,170.00

Second Collection

Please give to the National Black & Indian Mission Collection!

Birthdays & Anniversaries



March
BIRTHDAYS

Lillie Bickerstaff 3/28
Frederic Bolling 3/30
Emily Bell 3/19
Tony Bell 3/2
David Brown 3/7
Nefertari Brown 3/10
Brooke Brown 3/26
Laurelia Caldwell 3/9
Lisa Cooper 3/4
Kimberly Danks 3/15
Eric Garrick 3/28
Jasmine Hilson 3/3 *Darren Hunter 3/8*
Bettye Kelly 3/15 *Caitlin Leonard 3/20*
David Montgomery 3/1 *Dorothy Murphy 3/14*
Dawn Patterson 3/7 *Bertha Randall 3/30*
Terrell Randall 3/17 *Donna Robinson 3/16*
Jeffery Robinson 3/5



March
ANNIVERSARIES

Nathan & Bettye Kelly *married on 03/28*
 Earnest & Katie Riggins *married on 03/22*

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



Special Dates

- Stations of the Cross
Every Friday during Lent, 6:00 P.M.
- Daylight saving time begins, *March 9th*
- First day of spring, *March 20th*

OLF News & Updates

- The Bible Study Group will resume on Wednesday, March 12th. We are now reading The Letter of St. Paul to the Romans. New members are welcomed.
- We encourage everyone to attend our Lenten Night of Reflection on Thursday, March 13th at 6:30 P.M. Our guest speaker, Rev. Fr. Frankline, will enlighten us with our theme "Making a difference in the Jubilee year of Hope." Refreshments will be served 5:00 P.M. until 6:00 P.M. in the Parish Hall
- The youth and young adult Lenten Retreat is scheduled for Saturday, March 15th 9:30 A.M.-1:00 P.M. We will view the blockbuster hit "The Forge" followed by an open panel discussion. Lunch will be provided.
Please RSVP with Mrs. Veronica Boykin:
205.222.4439
- The Church & Parish Hall have been professionally cleaned and disinfected. **Any group that makes use of the Parish Hall MUST clean it immediately following activity.**
- We do not have enough parking space in the parking lot because of the ongoing renovations of the school building. Please, for the time being, park on any available space on the church's property.
- The 120th Anniversary Committee thanks those who have submitted their pledge cards and those who have already fulfilled their pledges.

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CHURCH Anniversary PREPARATIONS

The Anniversary Committee will meet on Saturday, March 1st at 2:45 P.M. in the Family Life Center. All members are encouraged to be in attendance.

Parishioners, please return your pledge cards as soon as possible. You may place your card in an envelope with "anniversary" written on it and place it the collection basket. You can also place your Ad requests in the collection basket. Committee members for each Mass are also available to accept pledges and ad requests.

- 4:00 P.M. Mass- Pam Jacobs
- 7:00 A.M. Mass- Lela Flood
- 11:00 A.M. Mass- Rosalyn Crowder
Sybil Sims
Juanita Harris

**The deadline to fulfill your pledge is July 31, 2025

Help Us Help Our Neighbor

Donations to Saint Vincent de Paul can be made anytime via cash or checks payable to "SVdP OLF Conference" and placed in the donation box in the vestibule. Thank you for your support!

Stepping "Out the Box" for Lent!



Reflecting on Pope Francis theme for Lent, "Let us journey together in hope," the members of St. Vincent de Paul Society invite you to join us in viewing the inspirational documentary "Mully" on March 9th at 12:45 P.M. (seated by 12:30 P.M.) in the Family Life Center to jumpstart our 40-day Lenten season. Come and enjoy refreshments and watch the true story of a man who overcame abandonment and ultimately gave his all so that others could have a better life.

A MUST Watch! Hope to see you there!

Puzzle!

Find and circle these words associated with the Lenten journey to the cross.

colt
confess
cross
crown
crucifixion
death

denial
donkey
forsaken
Gethsemane
Golgotha
hosanna

kiss
lots
palms
penance
Pilate
prayer

repent
silver
sins
suffer
thorns
vigil

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