



Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church

Parish Staff

Pastor

Father Kenneth Keke, SSJ
(205) 322-1205

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

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.



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.

September 14, 2025

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross



TODAY'S GOSPEL READING

& Reflection

Scripture: Numbers 21:4b-9
Philippians 2:6-11
John 3:13-17

So Must The Son of Man Be Lifted Up

Do you know the healing transforming power of the cross of Jesus Christ? The Lord Jesus came to unite earth with heaven and to raise those on earth to the glory of heaven. Jesus explains to Nicodemus, one of the chief leaders of the Jewish nation, that he is the "Son of Man" sent by the Father in heaven to restore our broken relationship with God. The "Son of Man" is a key Old Testament title for the Messiah who comes from heaven to establish God's kingdom on the earth (see the prophecy of Daniel 7:13-14).

What does Jesus mean when he says the "Son of Man must be lifted up?" Jesus links this expression with Moses who "lifted up" the bronze serpent in the wilderness in order to bring about healing and restoration of life to those who were bitten by deadly serpents. This plague of death was the result of the peoples' stubborn refusal to follow God's counsel and direction for their welfare. God in his mercy heard the prayer of Moses to free his people from this curse. God instructed Moses to "make a fiery serpent, and set it on a pole; and every one who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live" (Numbers 21:8). Moses lifted high the image of a bronze serpent fixed to the wood of the pole, which resembled a cross. Those who put their faith in God by repenting of their disobedience were healed and restored to wholeness of life.

Jesus clearly links Moses' act of deliverance in the wilderness with his own impending sacrificial death when he will be "lifted up" on the wood of the cross at Calvary. Unlike Moses' deliverance in the wilderness which only resulted in temporary relief for the people, Jesus' atoning death on the cross brought decisive victory over sin, Satan, and death. Jesus' victory on the cross cancels the debt of our sin, and releases us from guilt and condemnation. His death and victory brings us new life - the new abundant life in his Holy Spirit which lasts forever.

Jesus' victory on the cross also brought about his glorious bodily resurrection to new unending life and his ascension to the right hand of the Father in heaven, where he now rules and intercedes for us. The result of Jesus "being lifted up on the cross," and his rising and ascending to the Father's right hand in heaven, is our "new birth in the Spirit"

and adoption as sons and daughters of God. God not only has redeemed us from sin in Christ, he also fills us with his own divine life through the gift of his Spirit that we might share in his own glory.

Today's Psalm

Psalm 51:1-2, 10-11, 15, 17

1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

11 Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your holy Spirit from me.

15 O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth your praise.

17 The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Daily Readings

Sunday: Numbers 21:4b-9
Philippians 2:6-11
John 3:13-17

Monday: 1 Timothy 2:1-8
John 19:25-27

Tuesday: 1 Timothy 3:1-13
Luke 7:11-17

Wednesday: 1 Timothy 3:14-16
Luke 7:31-35

Thursday: 1 Timothy 4:12-16
Luke 7:36-50

Friday: 1 Timothy 6:2c-12
Luke 8:1-3

Saturday: 1 Timothy 6:13-16
Luke 8:4-15

Sick & Shut-In

Yolanda Collins
Hazel Jackson
Juanita Webb
Vascus Saunders
Allen Small

Douglas Robinson
Elizabeth Harris
Ronald Greene
Robert Tankersley

Stewardship Update

September 6th and 7th

Saturday 4:00 P.M.	\$1,680.00
Sunday 7:00 A.M.	\$1,531.00
Sunday 11:00 A.M.	\$8,285.00
Mailed In	\$ 190.00
Church Improvements	\$ 430.00
Josephites	\$ 25.00
Other	\$ 250.50

Total: \$12,391.50

Online (August 2025) \$2,265.03

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Amber Anderson 9/13
Omari Emil Bayles 9/4
Rafael Brathwaite 9/17
Calvalene Burnett 9/20
Natalie Brown– Kelly 9/9
Annie Bryant 9/25
Rosa Craig 9/2
Rosalind Crowder 9/9
Valencia Curry 9/21 Nathaniel Henderson 9/3
Arthur Hill 9/10 Jeremy Hilson 9/20 Martin Hinton 9/3
Fannie Hasberry 9/18 Anthony Johnson, Jr. 9/10
Mamie Johnson 9/20 Paige Juzang 9/29
Natalie Meeks 9/14 Wilma Norris 9/6
Edward Russell 9/23 Darrah Sims 9/12
Barbara Sizemore 9/18 Allen Small 9/30
Pat Simpson 9/21

Happy Birthday !!!!!!!



David & Nefertari Brown married on September 11th
Larry & Lisa Cooper married on September 4th
Anthony & Melva Johnson September 25th
Brent & Dawn Patterson married on September 27th
James & Erica Prewitt married on September 12th
Charley & Dora Robinson married on September 28th

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

World Mission Youth Fair

For Diocesan youth grades K-8

Saturday, September 27, 2025

11:00 A.M.—4:30pm

@ Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church
Concluding with a 5pm World Mission Mass
celebrated by Bishop Steven Raica

Please register at: [https://
form.jotform.com/251886275363063](https://form.jotform.com/251886275363063)
Contact: cwright@bhmdioocese.org for more
information

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The Poor of Jesus Christ

For the month of September the Friars are
requesting donations of canned goods: black
beans, whole kernel corn, green beans, pinto
beans, yams, potatoes, and soups. The dona-
tion box is located in the vestibule.

If you would like to mail in monetary
donations to the Friars, please send to:

Friars Poor of Jesus Christ
44 16th Ave South
Birmingham, AL 35205

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Looking for a convenient way to
donate to Our Lady of Fatima Parish

Text "Give" to
205-793-5505

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Parish School of Religion is back in
session and seeking teachers who are willing
to serve our children and youth Sundays
from 9:30am to 10:45am. If you are interest-
ed, please see Veronica Boykin after 11am
Mass.

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Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church

OLF News & Updates

2025 Biennial

Parish Council Election

Our Lady of Fatima Parish Council election will take place the weekend of October 18th and 19th.

There are four elected offices on the council: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Mass Representative. There is a brief description of each office as well as the nomination forms on the table in the vestibule.

We will be accepting nominations starting this weekend through the weekend of September 27th and 28th.

Please place all nominations in the drop box, which is also located on the table in the vestibule.

Membership of the Parish Council is open to all registered members of the Parish who are 18 years or older and have been a member of Our Lady of Fatima Parish for at least three years.

Parish School of Religion is back in session! Sundays from 9:30am to 10:45am.

OLF Bible Study is back in session: Wednesdays from 11am—12noon. All are welcome!

Parish School of Religion and
Children's Activity Loose Change
Drive

will continue through the month of September. Funds will be used for the benefit of our youth. A representative will be available to take loose change after each Mass.

Catholic Charities Commitment

Weekend is September 20-21, 2025

All registered families should receive a pre-printed pledge card and return envelope in the mail. Please prayerfully consider making and fulfilling a pledge.

Other ways to fulfill pledge:

Catholiccharitiesbhm.org/give-now

205-838-8309

Text "Giving" to 205-883-0023

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Saint Vincent de Paul

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

If you need assistance, please reach out to the Call Center at 205-202-1730.

Calls are accepted Monday and Tuesday from 10am—1pm. Feel free to leave a voicemail if you call outside of the office hours.

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120th Anniversary Unity Mass will be October 12, 2025. The Combined Choir rehearsals are Mondays at 6pm. Youth Choir rehearsals are Saturdays at 2:30.

Tickets are available for the 120th Anniversary Talent Production at the UAB Alys Stephens Performing Center. The ticket link is:

<https://my.alysstephens.org/3826>

You may also call the box office at UAB to purchase tickets at 205.975.2787.