

DECEMBER 01, 2024

SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH • HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA



Monica Crum

# Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30

8:00am: +Maria López  
5:00pm: +Oscar Rosas

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 01

**1st Sunday of Advent**

8:15am: For the Parish  
11:15am: +Ted & Jean Sikora

MONDAY, DECEMBER 02

7:00am: +Walter Shontz, Sr.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 03

7:00am: +Deceased Members of Sikora Family

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 04

7:00am: +Wilhemine Bosley

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 05

7:00am: +Angel Araiza Carillo  
9:00am\*: +Jose "Joe" S. Enriquez

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 06

7:00am: +Deceased Members of Zalenski Family

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 07

8:00am: For the Unborn  
5:00pm: +Debbie Hines

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 08

**2nd Sunday of Advent**

8:15am: +Nancy Marie Leslie  
11:15am: For the Parish

*\*HFS School Mass*

## PRAYER REQUESTS

We are here to pray for you!



Barbara Brodeur, Carolyn Wingenter, Zanetta Brown, Rachel Johnson, Faye Fletcher, Batchelder Family, Stachura Family, Sayre Family, Maddie Clearly, John Rourk, Jr., Cindy Morales, John & Linda Dimmock, Josephine Stratton, Ralph & Helen Kissel, Judi Trygg, Marianna Young, Cecilia Hall, Deacon Mike Rooney, Bernice Geigel, Jane and Dena Bell, Juliana Goode, Marie Basta, Wanda Boren, Richard Brown, Jena Lanzzell, Charlotte Johnson, Emma Lang, Matthew M., Selena M., Jackie Weems, Bob Strang, Mateo Hernandez, Jacqueline Meador, Adrianna Hilburm, Jason & Jaxson Rivera, Therese Thomas, Mary Bell, Art Sandridge, Chris Karlson, Mary Vandergraft, Jeff Baldwin, Ben Sundry, Anna Wilks, Bill Boehme, Claude Davis, Mary Flatt, Kennita Turner, Eva Nave, Judy Blanche, Anna Belander, the Price family, Gail Johnson, Sally Cox, Mary Andrus family, Bruce Jansen, Mary Jean & Ron Travis, Jean Arndt, Mil White, Fr. Tim Pfander.

**Note**

If you wish to add someone to the prayer list, please contact Renate at the parish office. When that person recovers, please call again to remove their name so that others can be put on the list. **Thank you, Fr. Joe**

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

I wish each of you a very happy and blessed new year – the first Sunday of Advent is the beginning of the Church’s liturgical new year.



This meditation came from the November issue of *Give Us This Day: Daily Prayer for Today’s Catholic* and it is very appropriate for this time. It was written by Fr. Lawrence E. Mick, a priest in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and a writer and consultant on the liturgy and sacraments.

On November 25 (Monday of the Thirty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time) the readings of the day were: **Revelation 14:1-3, 4b-5/Responsorial Psalm 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Luke 21:1-4.**

### Our Ticket Home

Understanding the Book of Revelation can be challenging. What do John's strange visions really mean? Yet, we should not dismiss them too quickly. Today's vision depicts 140,000 saints in heaven. That number is meant to suggest a perfect assembly (12 times 12 times 1,000). The actual number of those saved is much larger, of course, but the vision might prompt us to wonder how we can be included in that gathering. The Gospel points the way. Jesus commends the poor widow because she “offered her whole livelihood” to God. The point is not her monetary gift; it was only a pittance, like a couple of pennies tossed in the collection basket by a toddler at Mass. But it signified her gift of herself to God. She held nothing back. She trusted in God's Providence to provide for her future.

Her act of surrender, of trusting her life to God, challenges each of us. How much do we trust God's care for us? How much are we willing to risk based on God's promises to us? How completely are we willing to give ourselves to God? We should remember, too, that our love for God is expressed by our love for our brothers and sisters. How generous are we toward those in need?

We may never match this unnamed widow’s total commitment (maybe on our death-bed), but she stands as a reminder of God's call to abandon ourselves, to leap into the arms of our loving God without holding back.

I hope that this little reflection will help each of us as we begin a brand new Liturgical Church Year. Let us work together to make this the best year possible full of grace, peace and joy.

You are all in my daily thoughts and prayers.

Always in the Savior, Fr. Joe

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### THANK YOU

A special thank you to the “Joyful Bakers” – the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Lola Light Holiday Bake Sale was a great success. Thanks to all who baked and to all who bought.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FALL RAFFLE WINNERS

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Prize (55-inch TV)         | <b>Patrice Grider</b> |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize (large party basket) | <b>C. Jordan</b>      |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize (small party basket) | <b>Terri Light</b>    |

Thank you to all who bought chances – the money raised goes toward the new school.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday	Isaiah 2:1-5 Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-9 Matthew 8:5-11	Friday	Isaiah 29:17-24 Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 Matthew 9:27-31
Tuesday	Isaiah 11:1-10 Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 Luke 10:21-24	Saturday	Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26 Ps 147:1-6 Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8
Wednesday	Isaiah 25:6-10a Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 Matthew 15:29-37	Sunday	Baruch 5:1-9
Thursday	Isaiah 26:1-6 Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a Matthew 7:21, 24-27	<b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>	Ps 126:1-6 Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11 Luke 3:1-6

**ST. JOSEPH CHURCH**  
**2024 ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION**

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**SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)**  
December 9, Masses at 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. with Holy Family School,  
and 7:00 p.m.

**SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING**  
After all weekend Masses December 14 & December 15

**ADVENT RECONCILIATION**  
Every Saturday 3:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. or by appointment  
Communal Penance/Confessions December 18, 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

**CHRISTMAS MASSES**  
December 24  
4:00 p.m. Family Mass  
6:00 p.m. Vigil Mass  
December 25  
12:00 a.m. Mass at Midnight (music starts at 11:30 p.m.)  
9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Mass

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COAT DRIVE** With the approach of winter, there is a growing need for coats for children in our community. Your Knights of Columbus Council here at St. Joseph will participate in the Coats for Kids drive, and so can you!

A member of the Council will be available after the week-end Masses on December 14/15 to pick up new and slightly used jackets and coats, which will then be distributed to those in our community who need them. We invite you to join in this effort by providing a jacket or coat and bringing it to Mass on December 14/15.

**HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS** As 2024 draws to a close, please consider blessing the Holy Family School Capital Campaign by including it in your year-end financial planning. Thank you for all you have contributed during 2024.  
*Holy Family Capital Campaign Committee*

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES AND COMMUNITIES** Bishop Raica extends his thanks to all who participated in this year’s Annual Appeal for Catholic Charities and Communities. Please visit [www.catholiccharities.org](http://www.catholiccharities.org) or call 205-838-8309 to ensure that your 2025 pledge is recorded and that your 2024 pledge is fulfilled.



**SANCTUARY FLOWERS**

If you would like to make a donation to seasonal flower arrangements or request a special commemoration, please call the parish office at 256-534-8459.

**CURRENT WEEKLY OFFERING**

Regular Collection	\$ 10,100.07
Other Designated Funds	\$ 2,120.00

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE**

**DECEMBER 07-DECEMBER 08**

***Please see the full schedule for ministry assignments for Immaculate Conception, Dec. 9, @ 7:00 p.m.***

**ALTAR SERVERS**

- 5:00pm: Henry Franco
- 8:15am: Maddie Lynch, Lucy Fried
- 11:15am: Michael Terry

**LECTORS**

- 5:00pm: Patty Ayala, Lydia Tadesse
- 8:15am: Bart Lynch, Connie Abbott
- 11:15am: Shyntia Diallo, Cathy Tichow

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

- 5:00pm: Sherri Lynn Ross\*, Marian Kilgore, McKinley Curtis, Ben Sundry, Webb Tadesse
- 8:15am: Kevin Nash\*, Michelle Nash, Teri Lynch, Alicia Owens, Jamie Stewart
- 11:15am: Kristy Hayne\*, Michelle Jansen, Nelene Odutola, Jim Powell, Bruce Taylor

# Religious Education

## Formation and Catechesis

**CATECHIST NEEDED** for third and fourth grade religious education classes. We are also looking for volunteer catechist assistants. If you are interested, please call Maritza Holland in the parish office at 256-534-8459 during regular business hours.

### FORMATION CALENDAR

- Dec. 1 **NO RE/OCIA—HAPPY THANKSGIVING**
- Dec. 7 1st Reconciliation 10:00 a.m.  
St. Joseph Church
- Dec. 8 RE 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.  
Holy Family School/St. Francis Hall  
OCIA 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.  
Parish Office Building
- Dec. 15 RE 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.  
Holy Family School/St. Francis Hall  
OCIA 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.  
Parish Office Building
- Dec. 22 **NO RE/OCIA—CHRISTMAS BREAK**



### CHRISTMAS BOXES 2024



It's Christmas Box time at St. Joseph!

Please pick up a food item list in the church vestibule or the parish office. All donations must be returned to the church by December 7. You can also purchase Scrip for the boxes, put it in an envelope marked "Christmas Box Donation," and place in the offertory basket. We will have two collections designated for the Christmas Boxes—the Thanksgiving Day collection and a second collection at all Masses on November 30/December 1. Proceeds from these collections will be used to purchase item shortages and grocery store gift cards. The gift cards will allow recipients to purchase perishable items, such as meats and fresh produce, that we do not provide. Please help us on the following important dates.

- Nov. 30/Dec. 1 Second collection at all Masses
- Dec. 7 Last day to bring donated food
- Dec. 7 Count and sort donated items—9:00 a.m.
- Dec. 13 Build packing boxes—5:00 p.m.
- Dec. 14 Pack the boxes—9:00 a.m.
- Dec. 15 Boxes available for pick-up

This is a big annual undertaking for our parish that could not be done without the efforts of all who contribute to this outreach ministry. Please give generously of your time, talent and spirit to make this another successful year. For more information, call the parish office at 256-534-8459.

### ANNUAL RESPECT LIFE MASS AND WITNESS FOR LIFE

Saturday, January 18, 2025  
 Respect Life Mass · Bishop Steven Raica  
 9:00 am · Cathedral of St. Paul  
 2120 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. N, Birmingham, Alabama  
 Prayer Vigil and Witness for Life  
 10:45 am · Planned Parenthood  
 1019 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. North, Birmingham  
**www.BirminghamMarchforLife.com**  
**Facebook: Birmingham Prayer Vigil**  
**and Witness for Life**  
**205-447-8796**

**ST. JOHN PAUL II CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL** Admissions for the 2025-2026 school year are open from November 15, 2024 to March 1, 2025.

Visit [www.jp2falcons.org/admissionsprocess](http://www.jp2falcons.org/admissionsprocess) to learn more about our new admissions process and timeline, or contact our admissions office at 256-430-1760, ext. 117, or [admissions@jp2falcons.org](mailto:admissions@jp2falcons.org).

**WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS POTLUCK CHRISTMAS PARTY** Thursday, December 12, 11:15 a.m. at the Villas of Jones Valley Clubhouse, 1 Valley Way Circle. Call Cathy at 256-489-7111 with your reservation and advise what dish you would like to contribute.

## Here Is What's Happening This Week

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 03

10:00am: Parish Staff Meeting (LIB)  
 6:00pm: Boy Scouts

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 04

5:00pm: HFS Capital Campaign (LMR)  
 6:00pm: 11:15am Mass Choir (SJC)  
 7:00pm: 8:15am Mass Choir (SJC)

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 05

6:00pm: Adult Formation (LMR)

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 06

11:00am: Eucharistic Adoration (STA)

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 07

*Hospitality after the 5:00 p.m. Mass*  
 7:30am: HFS Breakfast with Santa (FMC)  
 9:00am: Count/Sort Food Donations (SFH)

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 08

*Hospitality after the 8:15 a.m. Mass*  
**NURSERY at 8:15 & 11:15 a.m. Masses**  
 9:30am: RE/OCIA (HFS/SFH/LMR)  
 11:15am: Lay Salvatorians (SJC)  
 12:30pm: KPC/KPCLA (LMR/LIB)

#### Facilities Key

FMC = Messmer Center/Gym  
 SJC = St. Joseph Church  
 SFH = St. Francis Hall  
 LMR/LIB = RE Center  
 STA = St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel  
 BRZWY = Breezeway  
 VBC = Von Braun Center