St Paul Catholic Church

1900 US HIGHWAY 72 WEST • ATHENS, ALABAMA 35611
Phone: 256-232-4191 • Email: stpauloffice@gmail.com
Website: www.stpaulcatholicchurchathens.org
Rev. Tom V. John, CMI, Ph.D., Administrator

He broke it and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me..." 1 Cor. 11:23

"When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed it, and broke it, and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognized him..." Luke 24:30-31

Happy New Year!

DECEMBER 27 2020, FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, & JOSEPH

REGULAR MASS TIMES

Saturday .....5:00 PM

Sunday.....8:30 AM, 10:30 AM (Bilingual)

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday (Chapel) .....8:30 AM

OFFICE HOURS

Our office is closed to the public. All office visits are by appointment only.

PARISH DIRECTORY

Deacon Chuck Butler.....256-420-2296

Deacon Dennis Kobs.....256-232-1426

Facility Mgt Deacon Chuck Butler.....256-420-2296

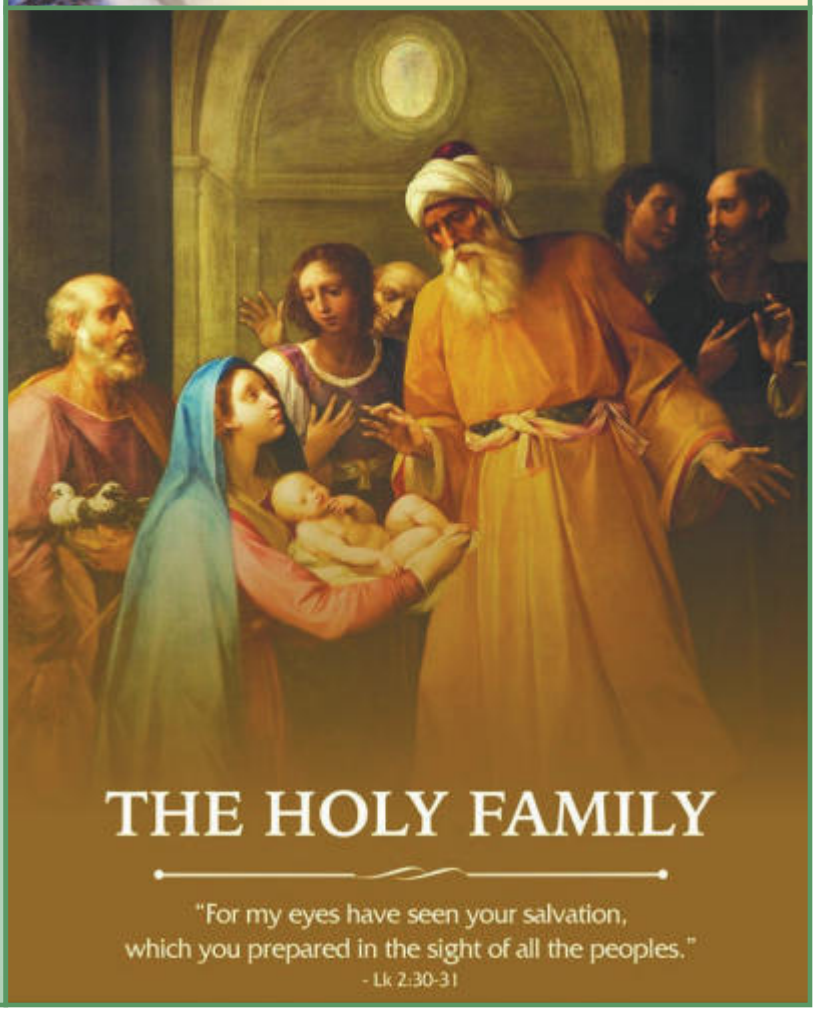
Emergency Contact.......256-278-5234, 256-420-2296

OFFICE STAFF

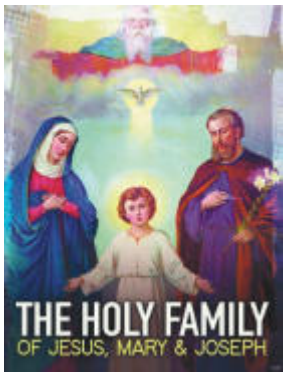
Secretary Paola Lagunas.....256-232-4191x3
Coordinator, Parish Ministries
Patricia Kobs.....256-232-4191

Announcement Highlights

- **Mass for Solemnity of Mary, Dec 31 at 5pm, Jan 1 at 8:30am.**
- **2021 contribution envelopes are now ready to be picked up in the Church.**
- **Don't forget to grab a calendar on your way out of Mass!**
- **See page 3 for announcements.**
- **Horarios de Misa y Anuncios en Español, Pg. 5**



MASS INFORMATION



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26
Holy Mass 5:00pm
Rosary 30 minutes before Mass
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27 • The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
Holy Mass 8:30am; 10:30am (Bilingual)
Rosary 30 minutes before 8:30am, 10:30am Masses
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29
Rosary 30 minutes before Communion Service
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31
Holy Mass 5:00pm
FRIDAY, JANUARY 1 • Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
Holy Mass 8:30am - In Memory of Kathleen Stapleton
SATURDAY, JANUARY 2
Holy Mass 5:00pm
Rosary 30 minutes before Mass
SUNDAY, JANUARY 3 • Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord
Holy Mass 8:30am; 10:30am (Bilingual)
Rosary 30 minutes before 8:30am, 10:30am Masses

READINGS AND OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1] or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [7a, 8a]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40 • The Holy Family
Monday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18 • The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35 • St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40
Thursday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18 • St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve
Friday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21 • Mary, The Holy Mother of God; New Year's Day; World Day of Peace
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 1:19-28 • Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12 • The Epiphany of the Lord; National Migration Week

SACRAMENTS

- **Anointing of the sick: Upon request: call the office prior to hospitalization, surgery or during illness.**
- **Baptism: Baptisms are held in the Chapel on Sundays after 8:30am Mass. Call the parish office for scheduling Baptisms. Parents and Godparents must have attended the baptism preparation class. Parents should be registered members of the parish 4-6 months.**
- **Reconciliation (Confession): Saturday 4:00pm—4:30pm in the Chapel Sacristy**
- **Weddings: You must meet with the parish priest a minimum of 6 months in advance. Please meet with the parish priest before you set your wedding date.**
- **Funeral Planning: Planning a funeral for a loved one is one of the most difficult experiences we will face. When a funeral is needed, please contact the Church office as early as possible and we will assist.**

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

For all our parishioners, friends and family who are ill, we ask God to keep them in His care & restore them to good physical & spiritual health. We pray for our Military, for Peace, for our country and for our Pope!

Jan Crosby (Pagani)
Claudio Datu (Emery's brother)
Pauline Garlen
Cheri Gurganus
Dennis Lewis (Louis)
K&F Palmisano
Martha D.
Jane McAllister
John Batts
Louise Pajak
John Pajak
Dean Clanton
Alba Cisca
Jeanne Carhart Salesky
Yovanny Muñoz
Phillip Farmer
Edilberto Aliviado Jr.
Madeline Madlen
Marjorie McBride
Paul Goedde
Carlos Sanchez
Julia Meyer (Meyer)
Christopher Neussly
Danny Pardon
Jerry & Margaret Paulk
Robert Simpson
Terri Tompkins
Molly Valleroy
Lesa Valleroy
Dennis Wheelahan (Davis)
Andrew Corso
Jennifer Emery
Jerry Brown
Denise Prater and Family
Keith Higginbotham
Eustorgio Uriostegui Calderon
David Gibbs
Lidia Melgar
Judy Beaver
Susan Fogg
Mike Conlon
Rose Gardner
Marie DePonceau
Mary Ann Whisante
Anthony Munroe
Jim Kollar
Oceal King
Fr. Luiz Bastos
Jack Byrd
Bruyns Family
Matilde Aliviado
Annette Carignan
Dolores Ready
Wells, Long, & White Families

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Carl and Elmina McLemore.....39 yrs…Dec 26
David and Maria Fine.....17 yrs…Dec 26
Kenny and Cora Carwile.....25 yrs…Dec 27
Eric and Rachel Thompson.....46 yrs…Dec 27
.James and Denise Reisz.....48 yrs…Dec 27
Paul and Amanda Gibbs.....17 yrs…Dec 27
Robert and Beth Tyler.....12 yrs…Dec 27
Michael and Marie Lunghofer.....50 yrs…Dec 28
Edward and Sandra Glovich.....16 yrs…Dec 29
Fulgencio and Maria Eva Diaz.....17 yrs…Dec 29
Ubaldo and Silvia Borunda.....8 yrs…Dec 29
Will and Maureen Daly.....3 yrs…Dec 30
John and Sheila Crow.....5 yrs…Jan 1

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

Tragedy and disappointment are inevitable. What sees you through this? There will be challenges, changes, unexpected circumstances, interrupted plans, hurts, and injustices experienced by every human being at some point in their lives. We will be asked to adjust our plans, change course, and even encounter suffering and death. Where do we learn all of the lessons we need to live life well? Some of them we learn along the way but much of what we bring to life, positive and negative, comes from our early beginnings, our families. This is our early world and provides the blueprint for how we see the bigger, more inclusive world, which unfolds before us.

Our families of origin can be sources of grace, heartache or a combination of both. Families are intended to be pivotal in providing us with proper social structure and understanding, a support system, lessons about relationships and communication, and the unconditional acceptance and love we so desperately crave. They can also determine whether we have an accessible and healthy relationship with God. Many of life's challenges can literally bring us to our knees and require that we possess a strength of character that resides well beyond the superficialities of our world. At some point we will all need three coping gifts that can be given to us only by God: faith, hope, and love. Our families help us learn that we are not the ones responsible for their creation, but God!

Our experience of early family life colors all of our relationships and what we expect to achieve from life in general. Resolving conflicts, dealing with difficulty and suffering, celebrating accomplishments, prioritizing our needs, listening to God's call, understanding relationships, understanding disappointment, learning about the virtues and living a centered focused life are all lessons our families either succeed in teaching or do not. To succeed, as God has designed and ordered our world, is to discover his presence and then trust that Presence. The Holy Family can teach even the most dysfunctional family how to best use God's gifts of faith, hope, and love to find him and do his will. Their simple humble example is always before us, showing us the way. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us!

Bishop Raica has extended the dispensation from the obligation to assist Holy Mass on Sundays & Holy Days of Obligation through January 10, 2021 (Inclusive).

We want everyone to be safe at Mass! To protect yourself and others, please wear your face coverings and keep a 6' distance inside the church. Saturday/Sunday Mass can also be heard from your vehicle radio on 98.5 FM.
If you stay in your cars, Deacon Dennis or Deacon Chuck will distribute communion under the hall canopy.
Collection baskets will be at the doors and by the canopy.

Solemnity of Mary Mass Schedule:
New Year's Eve, Dec. 31st: 5pm
New Year's Day, Jan. 1st: 8:30am

Annual Respect Life Mass and Witness for Life
Saturday, January 16, 2021
Respect Life Mass at 9:00 AM · Our Lady of Fatima, 708 1st St, Birmingham
Prayer Vigil and Witness for Life at 10:45 AM · Planned Parenthood 1019 1st Ave. N, Birmingham
Pandemic Protocols Encouraged
Contact: 205-447-8796

There will be no daily masses from Jan. 4 to Jan. 8, 2021. A Communion service will still take place.

Parish Activities and Ministries

Religious Education (K—12)
Ann Margaret Chapman, Director, 256-337-6730

RCIA / Catholic INQUIRY CLASS
Michael and Pam McCue, 256-233-0831
Classes ongoing
Wednesdays 6:30pm
Church Hall

Adult Faith Formation
Deacon Dennis Kobs
(256) 232-1426

Knights of Columbus
www.kofc-athensalabama.org
Brad Thomason, Grand Knight; 256-759-1320

St. Paul Catholic Women
Pam McCue, mccue50@gmail.com, 256-233-0831

Altar Server Ministry
Lori Wilson, tolife5433@aol.com

Hispanic Ministry
Call the office

Prison Ministry Deacon Chuck Butler, 256-420-2296

Beareavement Ministry Deacon Chuck Butler, 256-420-2296

Decorating Committee
Beth Whitt

Food Pantry Collection Basket in Vestibule

The FOOD PANTRY
is in need of:

Stove top gravy mix, can chicken or can ham, box potatoes, can sweet potatoes, evaporated milk, can pumpkin, can cranberry sauce, cake mix and frosting.

Thank you for your support!

THE DIVINE MERCY GIFT SHOP
Call the office
Cash & Checks Accepted

Healthy Habits to Help Prevent the Flu and Other Viruses:

1. Avoid close contact with people who are sick and when you are sick as well.
2. Stay home when you are sick. Don't go to work, school, or on errands to avoid getting others sick.
3. Use a tissue or your elbow to cover your mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing.
4. Clean your hands often. Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds . If water and soap are not available, use a 60% alcohol based hand sanitizer
5. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with dirty hands.
6. Practice other good health habits like cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school.

Hábitos Saludables para Ayudar a Prevenir la Gripe y Otros Virus:

1. Evite el contacto cercano con personas que están enfermas y cuando usted también está enfermo.
2. Quédese en casa cuando esté enfermo. No vaya al trabajo, a la escuela ni a hacer mandados para evitar enfermar a otros.
3. Use un pañuelo desechable o su codo para cubrirse la boca y la nariz al toser y estornudar.
4. Lávese las manos con frecuencia. Lávese las manos durante al menos 20 segundos. Si no hay agua y jabón disponible, use un desinfectante para manos a base de alcohol al 60%
5. Evite tocarse los ojos, la nariz o la boca con las manos sucias.
6. Practique otros buenos hábitos de salud como limpiar y desinfectar superficies que se tocan con frecuencia en el hogar, el trabajo o la escuela.

Eventos e Información Hispana

HORARIO DE MISAS

Sabado - 5:00 pm
Domingo - 8:30 am y 10:30 am (bilingüe)
Martes, Jueves y Viernes - 8:30 am

SI NECESITA UNA MISA PARA ALGUIEN, POR FAVOR LLAME A LA OFICINA UN MES ANTES DE LA FECHA DESEADA .

MEDITACIÓN DEL EVANGELIO – ALENTAR UN ENTENDIMIENTO MÁS PROFUNDO DE LA ESCRITURA

La Navidad es familia, es calor de hogar, es pureza de corazón. La Liturgia nos ayuda a recordar la belleza de este tiempo y las miradas son puestas en torno a la Sagrada Familia. La familia es convocada, ahora más que nunca, a ser valorada y enriquecida con lazos de comunión. Debe estar cimentada en la fe. Como ejemplo de esa fe tenemos a Abraham, Simeón y Ana. Ellos supieron cumplir sus deberes de fe y confianza plena en Dios. Bendiciendo y alabando a Dios por tener la oportunidad de recibir a Jesús en sus brazos. "Ahora, Señor, ya puedes dejar que tu siervo muera en paz, como le has dicho. Porque mis ojos han visto a tu salvador". (Lucas 2:29-30)

La familia es un don de Dios. El Papa Francisco en diferentes ocasiones ha dicho lo siguiente sobre la familia: "En su camino familiar, ustedes comparten tantos momentos inolvidables: las comidas, el descanso, las tareas de la casa, la diversión, la oración, las excursiones y peregrinaciones, la solidaridad con los necesitados… Sin embargo, si falta el amor, falta la alegría, y el amor, y el amor auténtico nos lo da Jesús". Y añadió en otra de sus frases: "Cuando nos preocupamos por nuestras familias y sus necesidades, cuando entendemos sus problemas y esperanzas... cuando sostienen la familia, sus esfuerzos repercuten no sólo en beneficio de la Iglesia; también ayudan a la sociedad entera". La familia de estos tiempos es convocada a valorar y vivir una Iglesia doméstica auténtica, donde el centro sea Jesús. ¿Es tu familia como la de Nazaret?

¡Queremos que todos estén seguros en la Misa! Para protegerse a sí mismo y a los demás, por favor use su máscara y mantenga una distancia de 6 pies dentro de la iglesia.

La misa del sábado / domingo también se puede escuchar desde la radio de su vehículo en 98.5 FM.

Si se queda en sus autos, el diácono Dennis o el diácono Chuck distribuirán la comunión afuera de la iglesia.

Las canastas de recolección estarán en las puertas laterales.

Horario de la Misa de la Solemnidad de María:

La víspera de Año Nuevo, 31 de diciembre: 5pm

Día de Año Nuevo, 1 de enero: 8:30am

DCM
Direct Media Connections
Connecting You to the World
Internet, Television and Phones
256.808.2900
Eddie Davidson, *Parishioner*

Tienda Mexicana La Fuente, INC
Carniceria
Panaderia
1000 N Jefferson St. • Athens
(256) 216-1060

SPRY est. 1919
FUNERAL HOME
804 US Hwy. 72 W • Athens, AL
256-232-2622
3 GENERATIONS OF FUNERAL DIRECTORS

QUALITY
CRAWLSPACE REPAIR
Foundation & Waterproofing Experts
256-345-6597

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PARISH.
Buy a bulletin ad space today!

WE'RE HIRING
AD SALES EXECUTIVES
Join our team
• Full Time Position with Benefits
• Sales Experience Preferred
• Paid Training
• Overnight Travel Required
• Expense Reimbursement
CONTACT US AT
careers@4LPi.com
www.4LPi.com/careers

AA MEZRANO
MEZRANO
LAW FIRM, PC
ALABAMA INJURY LAWYERS
(256) 203-3000
We handle car wrecks, nursing home abuse, 18 wheeler accidents social security disability, traumatic brain injury cases.

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME
ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE
Contact Melissa Jones to place an ad today!
mjones@4LPi.com or (800) 477-4574 x6570

THIS SPACE IS AVAILABLE

ONLINE GIVING
By WeShare
St. Paul Catholic Church
https://stpaulcatholicchurchathens.weshareonline.org

This Space is Available

SABOR LATINO TAQUERIA
800 US Highway 72 West, Athens
Home Style Mexican Food
Llamenos Para Hacer Tu Orden:
Call Us To Place Your Order:
256-497-0101 • 256-444-2037

Too Sick for Mass?
SUPPORT OUR PARISH NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE!
Sign-up to get your bulletin delivered right to your inbox!
www.parishesonline.com

LET US PLACE YOUR AD HERE.

UPGRADE TO A VIBRANT ad
Contact us for details
800-477-4574

Direct Home Care
"Why choose a nursing home when you can have Direct Home Care"
(256) 216-1808
1114 Highway 31, Ste. C • Athens
athensdirecthomecare@gmail.com
www.directhomecare.org