

# Choose Life

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Have you considered mentioning Our Savior parish in your will? Please help us continue our ministry by remembering us in your will.

## SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Catholics are encouraged to make a Spiritual Communion. Spiritual Communion is the desiring of Jesus Christ to enter our heart when we are unable for various reasons to receive actual Holy Communion. Pope Francis has urged Catholics to perform Spiritual Communion during the COVID-19 pandemic. This practice was established in the Church for centuries and recommended by several saints.

### Act of Spiritual Communion

*St. Alphonsus Liguori*

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



## TAI CHI CLASS

*It is a low-impact, slow-motion exercise that is often described as "meditation in motion."*

**Classes meet:** Mondays 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. in Jennings Hall.

- \* Social distancing will be observed at all times.
- \* Masks are encouraged.
- \* No cost
- \* Everyone is invited.

## Prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Help



Mother of Perpetual Help, today we face so many difficulties. Your picture tells us so much about you. It reminds us to reach out and help those in need. Help us understand that our lives belong to others as much as they belong to us.

Mother of Perpetual Help, you have been blessed and favored by God. You became not only the Mother of the Redeemer, but Mother of the redeemed as well. We come to you today as your loving children. Watch over us and take care of us. As you held the child Jesus in your loving arms, so take us in your arms. Be a mother ready at every moment to help us. For God who is mighty has done great things for you, and God's mercy is from age to age on those who love God. Intercede for us, dear Mother, in obtaining pardon for our sins, love for Jesus, final perseverance, and the grace always to call upon you, Mother of Perpetual Help.

### NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

O Mother of Perpetual Help, grant that I may ever invoke thy most powerful name, which is the safeguard of the living and the salvation of the dying. O purest Mary, O sweetest Mary, let thy name henceforth be ever on my lips. Delay not, O Blessed Lady, to help me, whenever I call on thee; for, in all my temptations, in all my needs, I shall never cease to call on thee, ever repeating thy sacred name, Mary, Mary.

O what consolation, what sweetness, what confidence, what emotion, fill my soul when I utter thy sacred name, or even only think of thee. I thank the Lord for having given thee, for my good so sweet, so powerful, so lovely a name. But I will not be content with merely uttering thy name. Let my love for thee prompt me ever to hail thee, Mother of Perpetual Help. *(Recite 3 Hail Mary's)*

## PLEASE KEEP DONATING TO GOODWILL EASTERSEALS GOOD SAMARITAN PRO- GRAM

**ALL DONATION CENTERS WITH RETAIL LOCATIONS ARE OPEN DAILY 10:00 AM - 6:00PM, Azalea Road, Airport Road, Schillinger Road, Tillman's Corner and Moffett Road**

**YELLOW DONATION FORMS** are available in the Parish Office but please call ahead. Please turn your yellow donation form into Goodwill when donating. This allows Our Savior and Saint Vincent de Paul Society to receive \$5 gift certificates for our Friends in Need. **THANK YOU, PARISHIONERS,** for your participation and generosity. Please contact Christina Richie should you have any questions.



Online Giving

## CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS

Visit our website to sign up and to begin contributing automatically to our parish. This convenient new system does not require you to contact your bank to sign up or to make changes. You can use any of your checking or savings accounts or debit or credit card, and the funds will be automatically transferred to our parish bank account. This system is more convenient for the parish than electronic checks from your bank. And it's convenient for you because you can make changes at any time. Go to our website or download the online giving app on your mobile device. **Contact Judy Pukac at 251-633-6762 x 203 with any questions.**

**For the website** go to [www.oursaviorparish.org](http://www.oursaviorparish.org) then click on the Online Giving link. It's quick and easy!

**For the mobile app** go to the App Store and search for Online Giving and register with Our Savior Catholic Church.

## STAFF

Father David Tokarz, Pastor  
Deacon Charles Kenny (retired)  
Deacon Norman Gale  
Deacon Jay Boyd  
Deacon Francis Tran  
Jan Murray, Religious Ed  
Tina Lyons, Youth Minister  
Dolores Hale, Ministry of Care  
Daniel Driskell, Music Minister  
Mary Marks, Office Manager  
Judy Pukac, Accountant  
Kim McDowell, Maintenance  
Mary Anthony, Housekeeping

## SCHEDULE OF MASSES

**Saturday Mass:** 5:00 p.m.  
**Sunday Masses:** 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
**Weekdays:** 8:30 a.m. Tuesday-Friday  
**Holy Days:** 7 p.m. Vigil & 8:30 a.m. & 7 p.m.

## CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. & by appointment  
Friday: 6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

## CONTACT

**Office:** 251-633-6762  
**Fax:** 251-633-7790  
**Website:** www.oursaviorparish.org  
**Facebook:** Our Savior Catholic Church  
**Email:** office@oursaviorparish.org  
**Fr. David's email:** djtokarz1950@gmail.com

## CHURCH ADDRESS

1801 Cody Rd S, Mobile, AL 36695

## Finance Council:

**Liturgy:** Fr. David Tokarz  
**Parish Life Activities:** Dolores Hale  
**LAFB:** Mary Anthony  
**Life & Justice:** Ricarda Manning  
**Knights of Columbus:** Michael Smitherman  
Grand Knight, Council 11366  
**4th Degree, Knights of Columbus:** Joe Behr  
Faithful Navigator Assembly 2918  
**Ladies Auxiliary:** Tina Lyons  
**Men of St. Joseph:** Francis Tran  
**St Vincent de Paul:** Christina Richie  
**Parish Council:** Vicki Wakefield  
**Sister Parish Com.:** Kathy Powell  
**Boy Scouts:** Edward Nehls  
**Cub Scouts:** Edward Nehls  
**Widows Web:** Judy Adams

## MOVING OR CHANGING ADDRESS

Please notify the parish office 251-633-6762

## NEW PARISHIONERS

If you are interested in joining our parish family, please fill out a card on the table in the back of the church to the left as you enter or online at [www.oursaviorparish.org](http://www.oursaviorparish.org)

## SACRAMENTAL GUIDELINES

**Baptism of infants:** If you are expecting a child or have recently had a child and want to prepare for baptism, please call the parish office (251-633-6762) to schedule a preparation session.

**Confirmation, RCIA, First Eucharist:** Jan Murray

251-633-6762 x 206 or [re@oursaviorparish.org](mailto:re@oursaviorparish.org)

**Matrimony:** Fr. David (six months before the wedding)

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

School of Religion grades K - 12 meets  
Sunday mornings from 9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

## PARISH OFFICE

8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday - Thursday  
8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Friday  
Closed daily for lunch 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.

## OUR SAVIOR YOUTH GROUPS

**Email:** [youth@oursaviorparish.org](mailto:youth@oursaviorparish.org)

**Junior:** 6th - 8th grades

**Senior:** 9th - 12th grades

## PRAYER CHAIN

Parish Office [office@oursaviorparish.org](mailto:office@oursaviorparish.org)

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wednesday 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

# OUR SAVIOR CATHOLIC CHURCH

## First Sunday of Lent February 21, 2021



### LENT: THE RACER'S EDGE/THE SURGEON'S SCALPEL

I hope and pray that the day after most of you see this essay, I'll be "under the knife" (finally!) for the repair of a hernia. This surgery has been postponed since the end of January, as (again) most of you know. It's not life-threatening (I'm not having a heart valve replaced), but it is necessary. I'll take a couple of days to recoup, and after that, I expect to be back at full strength.

While I'm down, I will be dipping into a book I was recently given—*Epiphanies*. It's based on a very Ignatian style of "placing oneself in the scene." Chapter titles include "I am King Melchior" or "I am the Rich Man" or "I am the Woman of Samaria." You get the idea. The second half of the book is blank—waiting for your own meditations of journal entries. This is a marvelous way of entering into the Scriptures to make them come alive. Whether or not you want to get this book, I encourage everyone, especially during Lent, to take this practice of prayer as a special gift of this season of repentance and recommitment.

This Sunday's Gospel describes the fact if not the details of the time Jesus spent in the desert, and its central importance is the fact that this desert experience is what drove Jesus to begin preaching the Kingdom. After the Baptism, the Spirit drove Jesus into wilderness for a time of self-reflection; the end of it was the driving (so to speak) of Jesus into mission and ministry.

Sadly, Lenten retreats (or retreats at any other time of the year) are a luxury many cannot afford. But the experience of a "desert," even if only for a few days, is critical to our spiritual balance. Is it possible to take a weekend at home and truly live just with the Lord—no TV, no email, no Facebook...? Perhaps even this is not an option, especially if little ones are running around the house needing feeding and attention. Perhaps even just a Saturday morning might work?

I know I'm pushing, but that's because I can see the effect of retreat in the life of Jesus in today's Gospel—and I know that this effect is what should be a motor force in our own lives as disciples: that is, mission and ministry. We don't need to preach in synagogues (or churches); we don't need to cast out demons (except from our own hearts); but we do need to witness to the love of God poured into our hearts, a love that is designed to be shared. This is our ministry; this is our mission. How will we allow this Lent to empower us to exercise the calling we have in Jesus Christ?

This year we will (please God) have one to be baptized, one to be received into the Church, and 3 others to be confirmed. We are hoping that this Easter Vigil will actually happen as it should. What kind of solidarity can we show to these 5 individuals? They are here longing to be full, active, and conscious participants in our Church's liturgy and our parish's life. How will we encourage them? More importantly, how will we prepare ourselves in this season to be able to encourage them, to be in solidarity with them, to welcome them? Lent in this light becomes a time when we prepare ourselves to be of service to others, and especially to our newest brothers and sisters. Are we ready?

Fr. David

### PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

"Our Savior parish is a Catholic community, fueled by the Eucharist and infused with the gifts of the Holy Spirit, committed to faith-filled worship, to outreach and welcoming for our brothers and sisters in need, to striving for Christian unity, to pursuing respect for the dignity of all human life, and to building the Kingdom of God on Cody Road and beyond."

Please pray for those who are sick and suffering in our parish, in a special way...

Bill Barber	Jesus Gallego	Ashley Rickel
Keith Bumpers	Manuela Golden	Vicki Scott
Lisa Brazell	Rose Marie Kervin	Jeb Shell
Annie Ruth Chappell	Monica Knight	Kathy Sirak
Mason Coker	Rady Laron	Mary Ann Stanley
Judy Courtney	Myrtis Mooney	Joe Vegliacich
Leah Dees	Marsha Naman	Bradley Wells
Michael Dees	Michael Nelson	

**FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE**

Nick Ciccaglione 2/1/08	Florence Bowdion 2/15/07
Don Lee 2/2/13	John Calametti 2/15/17
Carmel Cotter 2/3/16	Peg Baldy 2/15/2020
Mary Ellen Cruitt 2/3/04	Carl Noller 2/17/87
Harriett Busby 2/4/99	Noah Riddle 2/17/16
Tom Pennington 2/4/11	Dolores Ramos 2/18/14
David Zimlich 2/4/15	Ignatius Darring 2/20/09
Steven Grant 2/5/00	Judy Engler 2/20/16
Rose Ellis 2/6/06	Jack Kenny 2/20/13
Ethel Vaisin 2/6/19	Eugene Holt 2/20/13
Richard J. Smith, Jr. 2/6/2020	Joan Duffy 2/22/08
Joe Hacker 2/7/11	Jean Falzini 2/23/2020
Charlotte Faye Grimes 2/7/19	Renee Gump 2/25/17
John Klemm 2/8/15	Agnes Griffith Harper 2/26/03
Harry Ryan III 2/9/02	Jeff Lynde, Sr 2/26/2020
Josephine Stewart 2/9/09	Billy Kountz 2/27/07
Jo Shirey 2/9/17	Mike Walsh 2/27/11
Al Cosci 2/13/11	Jacob Moore 2/27/16
Harold Reed 2/12/09	Lejune Newman 2/27/12
Jim Murray 2/12/08	Earl Jordan 2/28/07
Don Maurer 2/12/16	Tim Lovorn 2/28/08
John Ellis 2/14/06	H. L Porter 2/28/08
William Peck 2/14/2021	Dorothy Puckett 2/29/12
Jacques Trefontaine 2/15/02	

**MASS INTENTIONS OF THE WEEK**

**Saturday 5:00 pm:** Jim Cline (d)  
**Sunday 8:30 am:** Doris Henriksen (d)  
**11:00 am:** People of the Parish  
**Tuesday 8:30 am:** Communion Service  
**Wednesday 8:30 am:** Communion Service  
**Thursday 8:30 am:** George E. Lundy, Sr (d)  
**Friday 8:30 am:** George A. VanCourt, Jr (d)



**Advertiser of the Week**

**PRAYER INTENTIONS POPE FRANCIS**

**Universal Intention: – Violence Against Women**  
 We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

**READINGS OF THE WEEK**

**Sat. Reading 1:** Isaiah 58:9b-14  
**Gospel:** Luke 5:27-32  
**Sun. Reading 1:** Genesis 9:8-15 (23B)  
**Reading 2:** 1 Peter 3:18-22  
**Gospel:** Mark 1:12-15  
**Mon. Reading 1:** 1 Peter 5:1-4  
**Gospel:** Matthew 16:13-19  
**Tues. Reading 1:** Isaiah 55:10-11  
**Gospel:** Matthew 6:7-15  
**Wed. Reading 1:** Jonah 3:1-10  
**Gospel:** Luke 11:29-32  
**Thurs. Reading 1:** Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25  
**Gospel:** Matthew 7:7-12  
**Fri. Reading 1:** Ezekiel 18:21-28  
**Gospel:** Matthew 5:20-26


**OUR SAVIOR LIVE-STREAMING MASSES**  
 We will be **live-streaming Daily Mass** on Tuesday-Friday at 8:30 a.m. and **Sunday Mass** at 11:00 a.m. on Facebook.  
**Two ways to view the Masses:**  
 1) Go to our website [www.oursaviorparish.org](http://www.oursaviorparish.org) and select the resources menu at the top right, and then click on the link "Daily Mass".  
 2) Log into Facebook and search for Our Savior Catholic Church. Please make sure you click on follow us on Facebook to get notices when a video is posted.



**PREVIOUSLY BLESSED PALMS** will be collected during the Lenten Season. Please place your previously blessed palms in the basket in the back of the church through Palm Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation on the porch or in the church foyer**  
 Saturdays 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. and by appointment  
 Fridays 6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

**HOLY COMMUNION ON CHURCH PORCH OR IN THE FOYER:**  
 Fridays 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  
 Sundays 12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.

 **STATIONS OF THE CROSS** will be at 6:00 p.m. every Friday during Lent followed by the sacrament of reconciliation from 6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.



**SPECIAL COLLECTION: St. Vincent De Paul Society** will have their first collection for 2021 after the Masses next weekend **February 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>**. They will be standing at the doors with their blue buckets to accept your donations. Thank you for your generosity over the years as you continue to help our Friends in Need.

**40 CANS FOR LENT FOOD DRIVE**



*"For I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me..." Matthew 25:35*

Our Savior Youth is hosting a Food Drive to help those in need. Due to Covid, our Souper Bowl of Caring will look a little different this year. Please consider taking our challenge of 40 Cans for Lent to provide food for our St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry and St. James Major. There are 2 ways to participate: 1st: Our virtual food drive by going to [www.oursaviorparish.org](http://www.oursaviorparish.org) and click on the link for SOUPER BOWL OF CARING to donate and we will do the shopping for you. 2nd: You can fill a box/bag and drop it off at the church or to Tina in the office no later than **March 28th Palm Sunday**. Thank You to all those who already donated.

**MEETINGS OF THE WEEK**


**Sunday** St Vincent de Paul mtg (9:45 a.m.)  
**Monday** Tai-Chi (10:00 a.m.)  
**Tuesday** Men of St. Joseph (6:00 p.m.)  
**Wednesday** Adoration (9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.)  
**Thursday** Finance Council mtg (6:30 p.m.)  
 K of C Officer's mtg (7:00 p.m.)  
**Friday** Singing Needles (10:00 a.m.)  
 Stations of the Cross (6:00 p.m.)  
 Drive-Thru Lenten Dinners (6:30 p.m.)

**"A word or a smile is often enough to put fresh life in a despondent soul."**  
 – St. Therese of Lisieux




Anticipated Offering Income	\$ 12,115
Actual Offering Income	\$ 8,427
Anticipated Offering Income to date	\$ 84,808
Actual Offering Income to date	\$ 76,367
YTD Offering: Over (Under)	\$ (8,440)
Budget Offering Year	\$ 630,000
Building Fund this week	\$ 103
Building Fund to date	\$ 1,257

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE SPRING 2021**  
**CAMPAIGN** runs from Ash Wednesday, February 17th – Palm Sunday, March 28th, 6am – 6pm daily. 1.) Pray and Fast for an end to abortion. 2.) Sign up to pray for one hour/week or just one hour the whole campaign at the abortion facility, Planned Parenthood, 717 Downtowner Loop West by visiting [www.40daysforlife.com/mobile](http://www.40daysforlife.com/mobile) 3.) Reach out in our community by spreading the joy of LIFE. Wear precious feet, pass out pro-life literature, put a pro-life sign in your yard, get educated and then educate others about the evil of abortion and about the beauty of LIFE. For questions or help signing up, please contact Ricarda Manning at 251-343-9204.

 **THE MEN OF ST. JOSEPH** will resume their meetings on **February 23<sup>rd</sup>**. It is an association of Christian Men united under the Catholic Church who meet weekly to pray together and encourage each other to be the spiritual leader of their families. A weekly one hour meeting is held at **6:00 p.m. every Tuesday in Joseph Hall**. For more information, please contact Deacon Francis or Mike Perry.

**SPECIAL COLLECTION** this weekend for Black and Indian Missions. Please be generous.

 **PRAY** for William Peck who died February 14<sup>th</sup>. He was the son-in-law of Barbara Brandenburg. May he rest in peace.

**DRIVE-THRU FISH FRY'S EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT**



This year you can prepay for your meals. All prepaid meals need to be placed Saturday – Wednesday by going to Online Giving found on our website. Go to [www.oursaviorparish.org](http://www.oursaviorparish.org) click on ONLINE GIVING tab scroll down to Lenten Dinners, you will be able to pay & place your order there. (example: 2 fish plates & 1 child's pizza) Please bring your receipt with you.

When picking up your dinners please drive around to the back of the church and follow traffic flow. Pick up will begin after the Stations of the Cross. Please stay in your car and we will bring it out to you.

<b>FISH PLATE \$8.00</b> 2 Catfish Fillets Coleslaw Baked (veggie) Beans Hush Puppies Dessert	<b>CHILDREN'S PLATE \$3.00</b> 2 slices of Pizza Dessert
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**KNIGHT'S KORNER**

The Knight's will be selling Perpetual Raffle Tickets. There are 27 chances to win, over \$2,000 in prizes including The Grand Prize drawing for \$1,000. There will be a maximum of 300 tickets that will be sold at \$25 each. All tickets will be reentered into the next month's drawing so that each ticket is eligible to win multiple times. The drawings will be held at the monthly Knights of Columbus council meeting. The first drawing will be in April, if you want to purchase a ticket please see one of the Knights. Tina has several in the office, also.

Knights of Columbus  
Our Savior Council 11366

**YOUTH GROUP UPDATES/EVENTS**

**SAVE THE DATE FOR THE FIRST EVER ARCH MOB YOUTH FEST! SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH**  
**beginning with 11 O'clock Mass**  
**For all 9th-12th grade youth**

We will be participating in the First ever Arch Mob Fest right here at Our Savior! The Office of Youth Ministry is offering the first ever, Arch Mob Youth Fest, for parishes to host on their own campuses with their teens. The theme of Arch Mob Youth Fest is "Infinite" based on a quote from Blessed Carlo Acutis: "Our goal must be infinite, not the finite. The infinite is our homeland. Heaven has been waiting for us forever." Please let Ms. Tina know if you are interested in attending so we can plan accordingly.

Youth group is open to all Middle School Youth 6th-8th grade & High School Youth 9th-12th grade. Parents and Youth if you would like to be added to the email/constant contact list so you can receive updates please send your email to [youth@oursaviorparish.org](mailto:youth@oursaviorparish.org). Our goal here at Our Savior is to provide a safe place to come together with your peers.

Watch for updates in the next couple of weeks on information concerning Souper Bowl of Caring. It will look a little different this year due to Covid-19.

Please contact Ms. Tina at [youth@oursaviorparish.org](mailto:youth@oursaviorparish.org) or 251-633-6762 x 205, if you have any questions.

**NEWS FROM THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

**Religious education classes:** As emailed lessons continue, please encourage your sons and daughters to keep up with their faith formation on a weekly basis. God bless you for your understanding and participation.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation for our second graders is Tuesday, March 2.


Parents, please stress the form for the sacrament and prayers (Act of Contrition, Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be). First Eucharist will be celebrated in May at a date to be announced.

The next Confirmation class is forming. This class is for students who will be in the 11th or 12th grade in the fall of 2022. Confirmation preparation is a 2-year program and students must be enrolled in Religious Education classes at Our Savior or attend a Catholic High School. If you presently have a 9th or 10th grader not enrolled in religious education, please stop by the office for a registration form or download a form from the parish website. Parents with students at McGill-Toolen Catholic High School please send your student's name and present grade to Jan Murray at [re@oursaviorparish.org](mailto:re@oursaviorparish.org).

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL**  
**Update from Jan Murray**

Thank you to everyone who pledged to the 2021 Catholic Charities drive. We received **159** pledges totaling **\$104,786.54** or **81%** of our goal. If you have not sent in your pledge, it can still be mailed in, dropped in the collection basket or paid online at [www.mobarch.org](http://www.mobarch.org). Thank you and God bless you!

**WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS:**  
David & Amy Stephenson and family  
Greg & Laurie Lemieux

 **EASTER LILY MEMORIAL** You may make a donation in memory of your loved one. There will be envelopes on the table in the back of the church for you to write your name, the name of your loved one, and the amount of your donation. Please drop the completed envelope in the collection basket. If you prefer, you may make your donation through our online giving found on our website.

"He who carries God in his heart bears heaven with him wherever he goes." — St. Ignatius of Loyola