



4609 Martin Street South, Cropwell, AL 35054
Office: 205-525-5161 Fax: 205-525-5162
www.ollpellcity.com parish@ollpellcity.com

Rev. William P. Lucas, Pastor

Deacon Terrence Rumore

Deacon Serge Brazzolotto

Deacon E. Lee Robinson

Director of Religious Education
Music Director
Parish Secretary

Sonya Lewis
Charmaine Welch
Shelly Hamman

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday : 5:00 p.m. Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.
Weekdays: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 9:00 a.m.
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday—Thursday 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday 4:00 p.m. - 4:50 p.m. or
by appointment.

MARRIAGES:

Must be scheduled with the Priest
at least 6 months in advance.

MORNING ROSARY:

8:30 a.m. before Mass.

MONDAYS:

Miraculous Medal Novena following Mass.

EVERY FIRST FRIDAY:

Novena To The Sacred Heart
of Jesus - before 9 a.m. Mass.
Eucharistic Adoration 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

HOLY HOUR OF ADORATION:

Third Sunday of every month at 7:00 p.m.
Second Wednesday of every month- 7:30 p.m.
Exposición del Santísimo el segundo Miércoles
de cada mes @ 7:30 p.m.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

August through May. Ages 3 yrs.-High School

Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church

SUNDAY MASS IS NOW ON FACEBOOK: OUR LADY OF
THE LAKE CATHOLIC CHURCH
OR THE WEB PAGE @ OLLPELLCITY.COM
CLICK ON INFORMATION/MASS-RECORDED SERVICE

CHURCH IS OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER
9:30-1:30 PM DAILY
(limit of 10 people at a time)

Easter Sunday of the
Resurrection of the Lord
April 12, 2020



When Christ your life appears, then you too will
appear with him in glory.
—Colossians 3:4



April 13 - April 19

Monday: Angelina Gagliano by the Brazzolottos †
Tuesday: Todd Brayman by Madelyn Williams †
Wednesday: Phyllis Ross by Bob & Karen Hand †
Thursday: Fr. Frank Milienewicz by Fr Bill Lucas †
Friday: Art DiMattia— by the Brazzolottos †
Saturday: James Gregg by KOC 12270 †
Sunday: Deacon Bill & Mary Alexiou
by the Brazzolottos

**Sunday's Mass Intentions are
offered at the 11:15 am Mass**

Please pray for the ill and shut-ins:

Paul Boyle, Jacky Johnson, Peggy Gessler, Gail
Layton, Tom Michaels, Teresa Wolf, Diana
Markevich, Dorothy DiMattia, Walton Smith,
Juanita Crowson, Kelly Dale, Glenda Marston,
Toni James, Bob Walsh, Sarah Svetlay, Charles
& Libby Lafleur, Kevin Reilly, Rosemary
Mateer, Lance Stella, Wayne Lowery

Please pray for all our loved ones who are ill and
shut-ins. To add a name, call the church office; or to
add to the Prayer Hot Line call Sharon Stice at 205-
338-0207, or email: sharonstice46@gmail.com.

Weekly Readings ~ April 13—April 19

Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-23; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11; Mt 28:8-15

Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41; Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22; Jn 20:11-18

Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10; Ps 105: 1-4, 6-9; Lk 24:13-35

Thursday: Acts 3:11-26; Ps 8:2ab, 5-9; Lk 24:35-48

Friday: Acts 4:1-12; Ps 118:1-2, 4, 22-27a; Jn 21:1-14

Saturday: Acts 4:13-21; Ps 118:1, 14-21; Mk 16:9-15

Sunday: Acts 2:42-47; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1 Pt 1:3-9; Jn 20:19-31

Today's Readings



First Reading — Peter is an eyewitness: The Lord is risen. (Acts 10:34a, 37-43)

Psalm — This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad. (Psalm 118)

Second Reading — All who are baptized, set your hearts in heaven. (Colossians 3:1-4) or

Second Reading—Christ our Passover is sacrificed; therefore let us celebrate. (1 Corinthians 5:6b-8)

Gospel — Three witnesses, Mary, Peter, and John; each responds to the empty tomb. (John 20:1-9)

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

EASTER MESSAGE

I am not a bumper sticker person. I think they “uglify” my vehicle. I also think the messages are temporary. They may be out of date before the vehicle is.

There are two exceptions: There are two bumper stickers that I would consider putting on my vehicle. One I have seen and one I have imagined.

One I saw on a car in a parking lot outside of a Christian bookstore in the days following September 11, 2001. It read, “God Guide America.” To me, “God Bless America”, sounds too much like wanting God to approve what I want to do. (My apologies to Irving Berlin and Kate Smith.) “God Guide America”, means God knows better than I do what needs to happen. I am asking that my will be done only if it is God’s will, too. I am putting my life in God’s hands because I believe God is wiser than me. If I was in charge of the universe, the situation would be much worse than it is. In the words of Jesus in the scriptures, “Father, not my will, but your will be done.”

The other bumper sticker I have never seen, but it could be out there somewhere. It would say, “Jesus Christ is Lord.” For a Christian, the resurrection of Jesus Christ is the visible sign of who He is. Our belief in the resurrection is our belief that Jesus Christ has conquered death and, because of that, sin. The verb in that message, “is”, means that Jesus Christ is more than a figure from history or a character in a story. He is alive. We can have a relationship with Him. Jesus Christ is Emmanuel- God with us. He is with us in good times and bad times. He is with us in sickness and in health. Our world is always changing, but Jesus Christ is always the same. That same-ness is what we can count on in difficult times.

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Jesus Christ is Lord. That makes all the difference: during pandemics and during “normal” times. This Easter, maybe more than on past Easters, may the resurrection of Jesus Christ fill us with hope.

Almighty ever-living God,
only support of our human weakness,
look with compassion upon the sorrowful condition of your children
who suffer because of this pandemic;
relieve the pain of the sick,
give strength to those who care for them,
welcome into your peace those who have died
and, throughout this time of tribulation,
grant that we may all find comfort in your merciful love.
Through Christ our Lord.
R/. Amen.



Diocese of Birmingham in Alabama

Post Office Box 12047
Birmingham, Alabama 35202-2047

2121 Third Avenue North
Birmingham, Alabama 35203
Telephone: 205-836-8322
Fax: 205-836-1910

Office of the Bishop

March 17, 2020
Saint Patrick

Dear Faithful People of the Diocese of Birmingham in Alabama:

As you know, there are now many confirmed cases of the COVID-19 virus in the State of Alabama. The various civil authorities have, as of this writing, restricted public gatherings to 25 people or less. This limitation, and the fact that this virus spreads easily and with great danger to some, requires us to take decisive action now with regard to our church activities.

Having consulted with priests, religious, and lay people in the Diocese of Birmingham, including members of the medical profession, as well as with other bishops and experts, I hereby decree the following:

- The public celebration of Holy Mass is suspended in the Diocese of Birmingham in Alabama through the day before Palm Sunday (April 4, 2020). The faithful are dispensed from any Mass obligations during this time.
- The faithful are encouraged to remember the moral obligation to keep the Sabbath holy that remains, even when attending Mass is impossible. This may be done by watching a Mass on television or online, meditating on the readings, saying other prayers and devotions, and so forth – including the laudable practice of making a Spiritual Communion. It is up to each individual and family to determine how to keep Sundays holy.
- Pastors and Administrators are encouraged to have their churches open regularly so that the faithful can come for private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, cautious to maintain appropriate “social distancing” and crowd size.
- Priests are encouraged to celebrate Mass daily in private for the Mass intentions they have accepted and with a special remembrance of the faithful of the Diocese in their prayers. All Pastors and Administrators remain bound by their canonical obligation to offer Mass “for the people of the parish” (*pro populo*) on Sundays and holydays of obligation.
- Where possible, priests might seek ways to broadcast or livestream their Masses, to help parishioners remain connected to their parishes and participating spiritually from home.
- Confessions should not be heard in ordinary enclosed confessionals, in order to reduce risk of transmission of the virus. Priests should consider creative and generous ways to offer the Sacrament of Confession, such as having it in larger parish halls or outdoors, always careful to safeguard the privacy of penitents.
- Weddings are prohibited during the Lenten season according to the longstanding Marriage Policy of the Diocese of Birmingham; nevertheless, should there be any weddings by way of exception, these should be limited to no more than 25 people total, including the five people required for the Catholic form of the sacrament: namely, the couple, the priest or deacon celebrant, and the two witnesses – being careful to maintain the recommended “social distancing”.

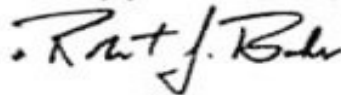
- The Anointing of the Sick should be administered generously, but taking prudent precautions and observing the access policies of local hospitals and nursing homes.
- Funerals may be celebrated only with an outdoor graveside ceremony; a memorial Mass in a church or chapel may be scheduled once these restrictions have been lifted.
- Baptisms should be delayed if it is possible to do so without danger; in danger of death and in other exceptional circumstances, Baptism should be administered, being careful to maintain appropriate "social distancing" and limiting group size to 25 or less.
- If Holy Water fonts have not already been emptied, they should be emptied and disinfected immediately. Holy Water may be made available through a dispenser/tank in the church, for those who wish to fill their private bottles.
- All other parish devotions and activities are to be suspended, to include Stations of the Cross, fish fries, bible studies, bingo, prayer groups, and other gatherings on our church properties.
- Pastors and Administrators should strive to prudently accommodate the reasonable pastoral requests they receive from their parishioners (for example, requests for office visits).

Our situation in Alabama continues to evolve and it may well prove necessary to amend these directives. In addition, I will review them in the time leading up to Palm Sunday weekend to determine any extension or other changes that may be necessary.

I also encourage you to continue financial support of your parish and other charities that serve the poor while we wait for the pandemic to pass.

As your Bishop, I want to assure that my prayers and the prayers of your priests, deacons, our religious, and parish employees are with you as we navigate this challenge together. We ask our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us His healing and peace, helping us to preserve a spirit of joyful hope during this difficult time.

Faithfully yours in Christ,



Most Reverend Robert J. Baker, S.T.D.
Bishop of Birmingham in Alabama

Update: On March 27, Bishop Baker extended the suspension of public worship through the day before Divine Mercy Sunday-April 18, 2020. Reminder that Our Lady of the Lake Church Mass is being recorded and shared weekly so members can continue to worship. Please go to our website: www.oilpellcity.com/Information or our Facebook page to see and listen to the recorded Mass.

Prayer Line

If you need someone to pray for any intention, an online prayer option is being provided by the Good Shepherd Ministries. Email your request to GSM-prayers@yahoo.com. You can also request prayer through regular mail at:

GSM Prayers
P.O. Box 316
Cropwell, AL 35054

Weekly Offertory

	July 2019	—	June 2020
	Actual*		Needed
Last Week	\$4,325.00		\$6,692.00
Year to Date	\$301,209.28		\$267,680.00

*Please note the actual total includes Seminarian Fund, Building Fund & Special Collections which are not part of the general operating budget.

Perfect Contrition and Spiritual Communion

What to do if you cannot go to Confession or Holy Communion due to the Covid-19 coronavirus

If you have to self-isolate or are quarantined due to the COVID-19 coronavirus, It is unlikely that you will be able to receive the sacraments as normal.

In these circumstances, there are devotions through which you can receive absolution for your sins (under certain conditions), and the consolation of Eucharistic grace.

These devotions are officially encouraged by the Church and have been practiced by saints.



How to make an Act of Perfect Contrition

Through an act of Perfect Contrition, you receive pardon for your sins outside of confession, even mortal sins, on condition that you determine to amend your life and make a firm resolution to go to sacramental confession as soon as this becomes possible for you.

Perfect Contrition is a grace from God, so sincerely ask for this gift throughout the day prior to making your act of contrition: “My God, grant me perfect contrition for all my sins”.

1. In reality or imagination kneel at the foot of a crucifix and say to yourself; “Jesus, my God and my Savior, in the midst of your agony, you remembered me, you suffered for me, you wished to wipe away my sins”.
2. Contrition is ‘perfect’ if you repent of your sins because you love God and are sorry for offending Him and causing the sufferings of Christ on the cross. Before the Crucified Christ remember your sins, repent of them because they have brought our Lord to his sufferings on the Cross. Promise him, that with His help, you will not sin again.
3. Recited, slowly and sincerely, an act of contrition focused on the goodness of God and your love of Jesus: “O my God, because you are so good, I am very sorry that I have sinned against you and by the help of your grace I will not sin again. Amen”.

How to make a Spiritual Communion

The key to Spiritual Communion is to grow in your heart a constant desire for the Blessed Sacrament.

1. If you are aware of serious or mortal sin, make an Act of Perfect Contrition.
2. Imagine the sacred words and action of the Mass or watch online or on TV.
3. Make all those acts of faith, humility, sorrow, adoration, love and desire that you usually express before Holy Communion.
4. Desire, with earnest longing, to receive our Lord present — Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity — in the Blessed Sacrament.
5. Say this prayer of St. Alphonsus de’ Ligouri: “My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You are already there, I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You; do not let me ever be separated from You. Amen.
6. After moments of silent adoration make all those acts of faith, humility, love, thanksgiving and offering that you usually express through prayers after Holy Communion.

Youth

Our Lake of the Lake Parish Religious Education Suspension

All religious education classes have been suspended due to COVID-19 (Coronavirus) concerns. This includes our First Communion classes and all OLL Youth groups.

Please continue to pray for those affected by the virus, as well as for their families and caretakers.



Please pray for our RCIA catechumen and candidates:

Bill Burns, Doug MacMurdo, Cristy McKinney, Teri Shields, Buddy Spradley, Janet Stevens

Job Opening

Sonya Lewis, our current Director of Religious Education (DRE), has decided to resign her position, effective June 6th. We will begin the process of hiring a new DRE in April. This is a part-time position (25 hours per week). If you or someone you know is interested, contact Father Bill at the church office.

Church Directories Have Arrived!

The OLL Pictorial Church Directory have been delivered. A copy is available to those who have a picture printed in the directory. The directories are labeled with your last name and located in the north foyer of the church.

The church is open from 9:30am—1:30 pm daily with only 10 people allowed at a time. Please remember the social distancing guidelines as you pick up your directory.

Protecting **Seniors**
Nationwide

24SEVEN

Medical Alert System

\$29.95/Mo. billed quarterly

- One Free Month
- No Long-Term Contract
- Price Guarantee
- Easy Self Installation



Call Today! Toll Free 1.877.801.8608

Please Patronize

The Sponsors Who Appear On This Bulletin.
It Is Through Their Support That This Bulletin Is Made Possible.
Business Owners Interested In Advertising Please Call
J.S. Paluch at 1-800-438-8931



Celebrating the

Easter Season

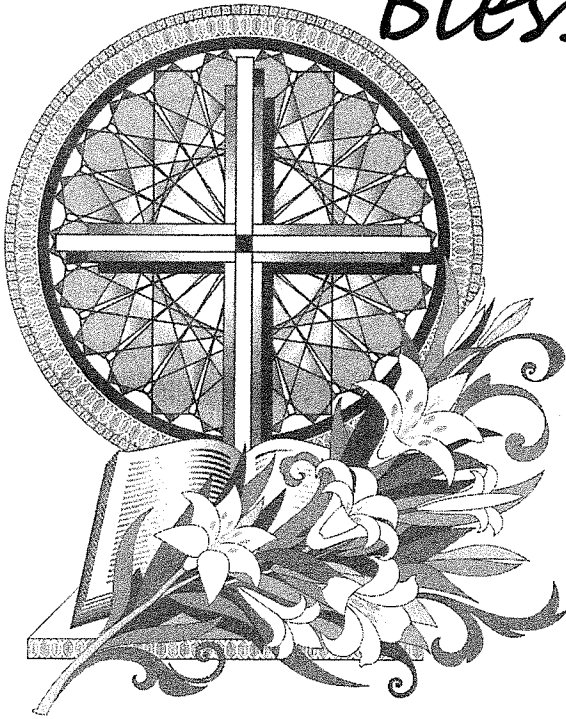
at Home



April 12 – May 31, 2020

EASTER

Blessings & Prayers



Easter Daily Devotion

Rejoice and be glad, Alleluia!

Let the joy of the Resurrection
fill me every day, O Lord.

Rejoice and be glad, Alleluia!

May the Spirit's grace and power
bless me this day, O Lord.

Rejoice and be glad, Alleluia!

Help me to be a sign of your life and love
today and every day, O Lord.

Rejoice and be glad, Alleluia!

Table Prayer for the Season of Easter

This is the day the Lord has made!

On this Day of days
we are filled with Easter joy
and nourished by the fruits of earth.

On this Day of days
may we know the presence of Christ
in breaking bread with those we love.

On this Day of days
let us show his presence to the poor and hungry
as our service to them is a sign of his glory.

This is the day the Lord has made!

Let all the earth cry out with joy
on this Day of days.

May this meal be blessed,
as we will be at the feast of heaven. Amen.

Regina Caeli, Laetare. Alleluia! (An Easter Prayer to the Mother of God)

Rejoice, Queen of heaven. Alleluia!

Lead the rejoicing of all the saved, Holy Mary, Mother of God.

You were chosen to be Christ's mother. Alleluia!

*Help us remain faithful children of light, Holy Mary,
Mother of God.*

Christ has risen as he said. Alleluia!

Let us follow your example, Holy Mary, Mother of God.

Pray for us to God. Alleluia!

*With all the saints, Holy Mary, Mother of God,
intercede for us at the throne of grace.*

Rejoice and be glad: the Lord is truly risen. Alleluia!

May our joy bring us, Holy Mary, Mother of God,

to join you and the hosts of heaven,

singing eternal praises in glory for all eternity. Alleluia!

In accordance with c. 827, permission to publish is granted on February 18, 2020, by Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks, Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Chicago. Permission to publish is an official declaration of ecclesiastical authority that the material is free from doctrinal and moral error. No legal responsibility is assumed by the grant of this permission.

An

Easter Letter

from Saint Athanasius of Alexandria

My people,

Do you know the term "Arianism"? Perhaps not; it passed into memory a millennium and a half ago. This heresy claimed that the Son was created by—and was not one in being with—the Father. Therefore, Arians thought Jesus could not be fully divine.

I spent my life fighting this heresy, beginning as a young man at the Council of Nicaea. I was not always successful, and was exiled from the Church five times. More and more leaders of the Church and state accepted Arianism. During this time, I was even excommunicated for a while! Sometimes, I felt as if I stood alone against the world.

And yet in the end, Arianism—a misrepresentation of the very nature of God—faded away. God's truth cannot be overcome.

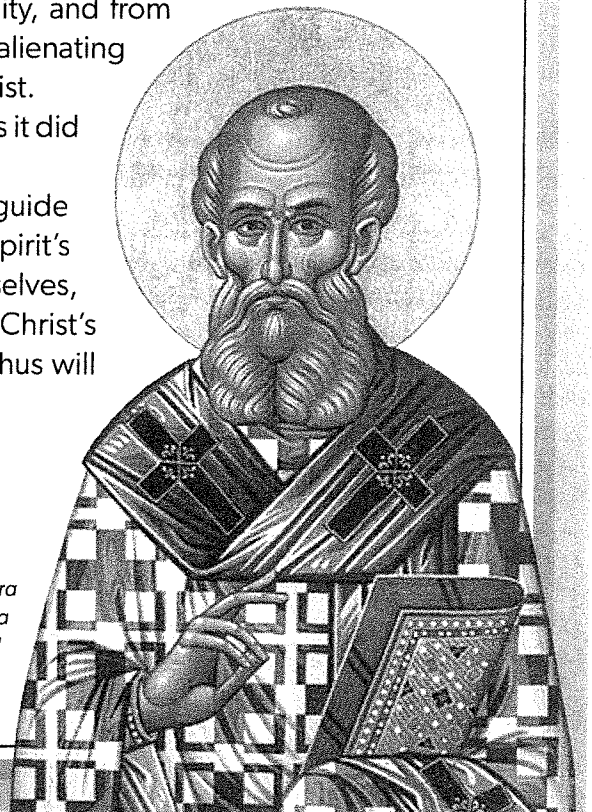
There are battles being waged in your time, too. The assault on the Body of Christ comes from outside, from those who see the Church as closed-minded or backward. It also comes from within the Body, with various sides seeking only victory and failing to show the merciful heart of God. There is division over questions of worship and authority, and how to deal with scandal. It likewise comes from those who believe that worldly status or affluence signal God's favor—a view that stands directly at odds with the teachings of Christ himself. It comes from professed believers who mistake uniformity for unity, and from those whose words and actions bespeak division, often alienating the very people most in need of the healing touch of Christ.

The Church in your day cries out for healing, just as it did in mine.

But take heart, my children. The Holy Spirit will guide the Church through this time, as in every other. Seek the Spirit's guidance with a sincere heart. In the Spirit, allow yourselves, individual members of the Body of Christ, to be remade in Christ's image. Christ is the Head of the Body, the Church, and thus will the entire Church be renewed.

Athanasius of Alexandria

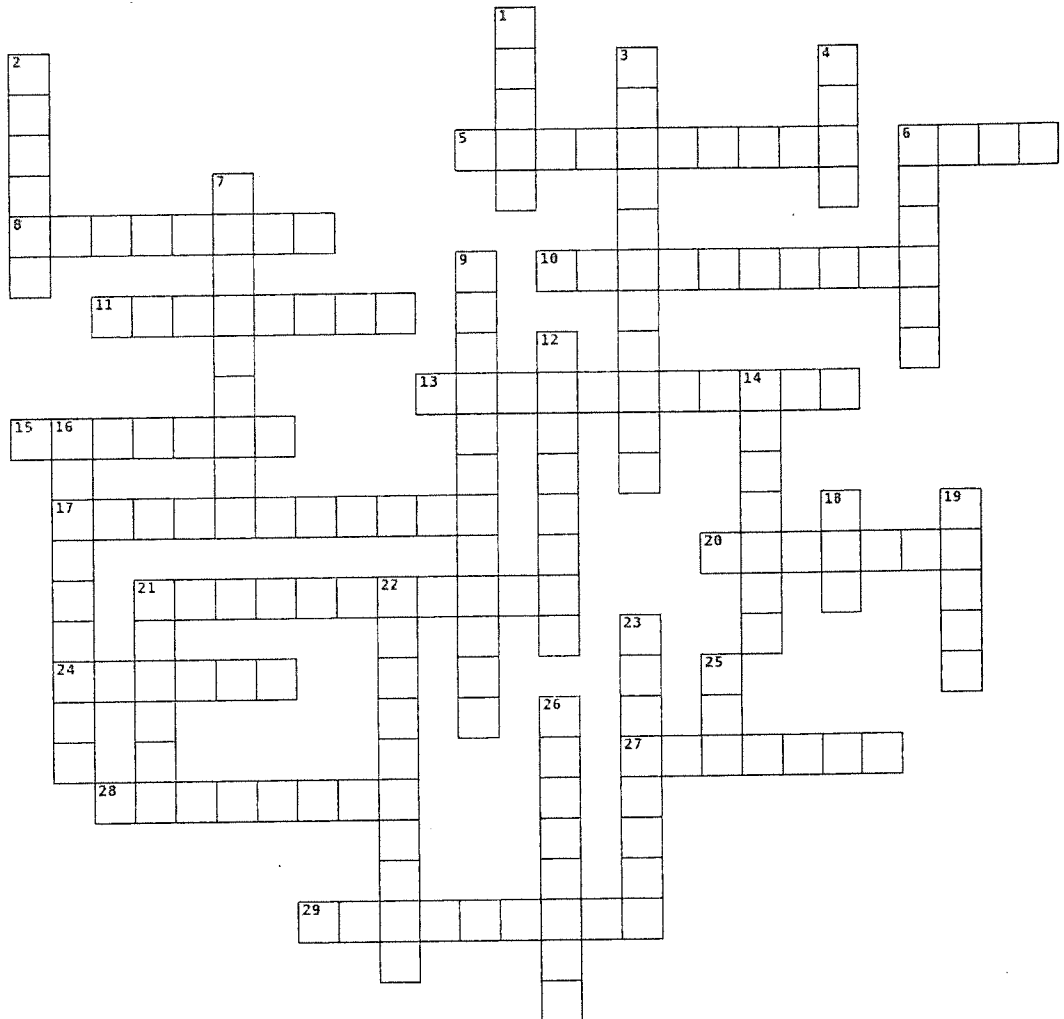
A fourth-century Egyptian bishop known during his life as "Athanasius Contra Mundum" (Athanasius against the World), Athanasius was soon recognized as a "pillar of the Church" by Gregory of Nazianzus. He is a doctor of the Church and had great influence on the canon of books included in the Bible. In the west, his feast day is celebrated on May 2.



Easter Season Scripture Crossword Puzzle

Test your knowledge of scripture: use the blanks in the quotes below, drawn from the Easter season readings, to fill in the crossword. Stumped? Look up the references in your Bible—without a web search.

1. He **[9 down]** us to preach to the people and testify that he is the one **[16 down]** by God as judge of the living and the dead. (Acts 10:42)
2. Come to him, a living stone, **[11 across]** by human beings but chosen and precious in the sight of God. (1 Peter 2:4)
3. In my Father's house there are many **[26 down]** places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? (John 14:2)
4. The community of believers was of one **[19 down]** and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in **[21 down]**. (Acts 4:32)
5. The stone the builders rejected has become the **[21 across]**. (Psalm 118:22)
6. You have died, and your life is **[6 down]** with Christ in God. (Colossians 3:3)
7. I bless the LORD who **[8 across]** me. (Psalm 16:7)
8. You were **[12 down]** from your futile conduct, handed on by your ancestors, not with **[5 across]** things like silver or gold but with the precious blood of Christ as of a spotless unblemished lamb. (1 Peter 1:18–19)
9. Therefore let us celebrate the feast, not with the old yeast, the yeast of **[2 down]** and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of **[29 across]** and truth. (1 Corinthians 5:8)
10. All who believed . . . would sell their property and **[17 across]** and divide them among all according to each one's need. (Acts 2:44, 45)
11. I was hard pressed and **[15 across]**, but the LORD came to my help. (Psalm 118:13)
12. Now when LORD they heard this, they were **[25 down]** to the heart. (Acts 2:37)
13. Do you not know that a little yeast **[14 down]** all the dough? Clear out the old yeast, so that you may become a fresh batch of dough. (1 Corinthians 5:6–7)
14. Now if you invoke as Father him who judges **[13 across]** according to each one's works, conduct yourselves with **[7 down]** during the time of your **[22 down]**. (1 Peter 1:17)
15. In this you **[20 across]**, although now for a little while you may have to suffer through various trials. (1 Peter 1:6)
16. If you are **[27 across]** when you suffer for doing what is good, this is a grace before God. (1 Peter 2:20)



17. There was no needy person among them, for those who owned **[23 down]** or houses would sell them, bring the proceeds of the sale, and put them at the feet of the apostles, and they were **[3 down]** to each according to need. (Acts 4:34–35)
18. Then many of his disciples who were listening said, "This saying is **[6 across]**; who can accept it?" (John 6:60)
19. Like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house to be a holy **[10 across]**. (1 Peter 2:5)
20. Peter and John, however, said to them in reply, "Whether it is right in the sight of God for us to **[4 down]** you rather than God, you be the judges." (Acts 4:19)
21. But during the night, the **[1 down]** of the Lord opened the doors of the prison, led them out, and said, "Go and take your place in the **[24 across]** area, and tell the people everything about this life." (Acts 5:19–20)
22. "If this **[28 across]** or this activity is of human origin, it will destroy itself. But if it comes from God, you will not be able to destroy them; you may even find yourselves fighting against **[18 down]**." (Acts 5:38–39)

Scripture quotations taken from the *New American Bible, revised edition*, copyright © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, D.C. Used with permission. All rights reserved. No part of the *New American Bible* may be reproduced in any form without permission in writing from the copyright owner.



What impact do my Baptismal vows have on my everyday life?

This Easter season, spend some time each week pondering the questions below to discern how your ordinary world might better reflect the Baptismal promises you renewed on Easter Sunday.

Week One: Do you renounce Satan?

Where does Satan work on your life and your heart? Where does temptation meet you? Food? Social media? Anger? What can you do to break the cycle and reject Satan's hold?

Week Two: And all his works?

Satan's work is to divide. Where in your life is division rampant? What issues do you approach in an all-or-nothing way, leading to judgment and acrimony? What can you do to bridge division when you encounter it in daily life?

Week Three: And all his empty show?

Which of Satan's promises are hardest for you to resist? Comfort, power, admiration, prestige, luxury, self-righteousness? When do you find yourself unwilling to sacrifice those things in order to see God's kingdom of justice made real on earth? What stands in the way of truly rejecting these empty promises?

Week Four: Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

If God made all things, then we must treat the created world with reverence. List three ways you can treat God's creation with greater reverence and better stewardship.

Week Five: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried, rose again from the dead, and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

Because of Jesus' incarnation, death, and resurrection, everyone on earth is invited to the heavenly banquet. What does this mean for your interactions with those on the margins of your ordinary life: philosophical/political opponents, those of other cultures or religions? How can you better honor them as bearers of God's image?

Week Six: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

The Spirit moves every person in a unique way. Do you invite the Spirit to dwell in you, or are you afraid? Where in your life do you need the Spirit's guidance, discernment, or healing?

Week Seven: Do you believe in the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

Belief manifests in action. What gifts can you offer to the Church? What prevents you from giving of your time? What can you do to change that?



CELEBRATING THE FEAST OF THE *Ascension*

In much of the United States, the feast of the Ascension has been permanently transferred to Sunday. Lacking the obligation, this feast often feels more “ordinary” than “holy day.” But it hasn’t always been that way. In fact, there are a number of interesting traditions associated with the feast of the Ascension:

- Horse races
- A picnic on a high place (a nod to the setting of the Ascension story)
- A meal with some sort of bird for a main dish, to represent Christ “flying” up to heaven
- “Beating the bounds,” in which parishioners walked around the church property marking the boundaries by writing on them in chalk or hitting them with sticks
- The Wedding with the Sea, a colorful festival in Venice celebrated to this day in conjunction with the Ascension

Many places also incorporated rituals held within the church. The blessing of the “first fruits,” in honor of Christ, the “firstfruits” of those who have died, ascending to heaven, was a common tradition. Because the Ascension falls in the late spring, when the year’s first crops begin to produce, many communities used the occasion to pray for blessings on the growing season.

Other rituals associated with this feast include:

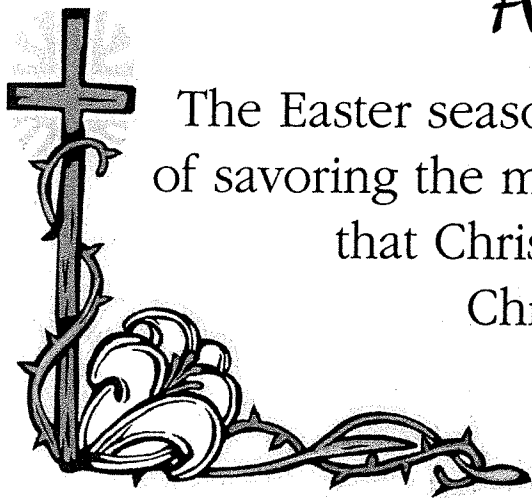
- the blessing of a candle
- processions with torches and banners
- reenacting the Ascension by raising an image of Christ above the altar and through an opening on the roof

The cathedral at Florence celebrated a particularly colorful ritual. A dove slid down a string from the high altar, landing in a container of fireworks placed in front of the building’s main entrance, which then ignited.

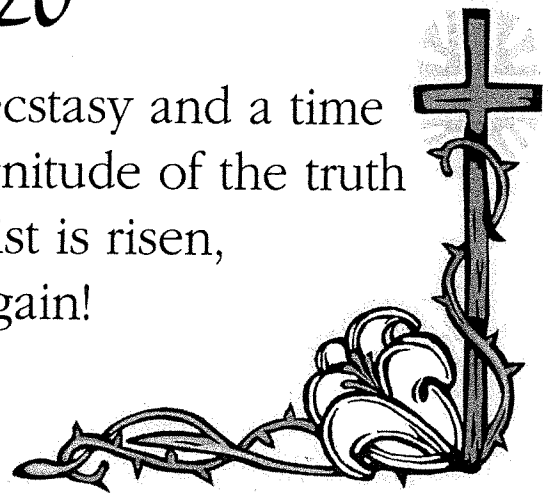
Many of these special effects would seem trite in modern life, and as rural communities shrink, the rituals of the agricultural year might not resonate. But everyone can enjoy a picnic. If you can hike to a high place for it, so much the better. Honor the culinary tradition by packing cold fried chicken as a main dish. Another possibility is to use cookie cutters to make bird-shaped biscuits or cookies. Have grapes, to remember the Italian tradition, or whatever “firstfruits” are seasonal in your area: strawberries, broccoli, lettuce, and so on.



Easter Sunday April 12, 2020



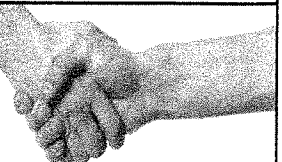
The Easter season is a time of ecstasy and a time of savoring the mystery and magnitude of the truth that Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!



		<p>Protecting Seniors Nationwide</p> <p>Medical Alert System</p> <p>\$29.95/MO. billed quarterly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Free Month • No Long-Term Contract • Price Guarantee • Easy Self Installation <p>Call Today! Toll Free 1.877.801.8608</p>	
--	--	---	--

Please Patronize

The Sponsors Who Appear On This Bulletin.
It Is Through Their Support That This Bulletin Is Made Possible.
Business Owners Interested In Advertising Please Call
J.S. Paluch at 1-800-438-8931



< Please Cut Out This "Thank You Ad" and Present It The Next Time You Patronize One of Our Advertisers

Thank You

Thank you for advertising in our church bulletin. I am patronizing your business because of it!



TOWN & COUNTRY

"Experience Our Award Winning Attitude"

m.mcrae@pellcityford.com
205-427-9051
 www.pellcityford.com

Now Paying \$200 Referral Fee
Call Me for Details!

State Farm™

BART PERRY
 STATE FARM AGENCY

205-525-0726 www.BartPerry.com

Carey Monistere
 REALTOR®

205.901.0652
 careymfgre@gmail.com
 www.fieldsgossett.com



Knights of Columbus Council 12270

Pell City, AL

If You Live Alone You Need MDMedAlert!

24 Hour Protection at HOME and AWAY!

- ✓ Ambulance Solutions as Low as **\$19.⁹⁵ a month**
- ✓ Police ✓ Fire
- ✓ Friends/Family **FREE Shipping**
FREE Activation
NO Long Term Contracts

CALL NOW! 800.809.3352

MDMedAlert
 Safe-Guarding America's Seniors Nationwide!

This Button SAVES Lives! As Shown GPS, Lowest Price Guaranteed! GPS Tracking w/Fall Detection Nationwide, No Land Line Needed EASY Set-up, NO Contract 24/7 365 Monitoring in the USA



Do you want to rediscover the spark that was there on you wedding day?

Do you want to rediscover the best friend you had when you were first married?

Do you want to join the millions of couples worldwide who have learned how to keep their marriage vibrant and alive?

WHY WAIT? — MAKE A WEEKEND www.ALFL-wwme.org

ONE PARISH

Grow in your faith, find a Mass, and connect with your Catholic Community with OneParish!

Download Our Free App or Visit **MY.ONEPARISH.COM**

catholicmatch®

Alabama

CatholicMatch.com/myAL

FINDaPARISH.com

Check It Out Today!

The Most Complete Online National Directory of Catholic Parishes

Get this weekly bulletin delivered by email - for FREE!

Sign up here:
<https://www.jspaluch.com/BulletinSubscribe.aspx>

Courtesy of J.S. Paluch Company, Inc.