



**4609 Martin Street South, Cropwell, AL 35054**  
Office: 205-525-5161 Fax: 205-525-5162  
[www.ollpellcity.com](http://www.ollpellcity.com) [parish@ollpellcity.com](mailto: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**

**Kelly Cardenas  
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. through  
High School.

*Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church*

*Saturday, December 12, 2020  
Mass 5:00 pm*

*Sunday, December 13, 2020*

*Masses 8:30 am & 11:15 am*

*Third Sunday of Advent  
December 13, 2020*



*Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.  
—1 Thessalonians 5:16*



**Dec 14 - Dec 20**

- Monday:** Vivienne Chavers by Susan Moseley  
**Tuesday:** Jacky & Tommie Johnson by the Brazzolottos  
**Wednesday:** Clarence Ramsey by the Brazzolottos †  
**Thursday:** Paul & Jeanie Reid by the Brazzolottos  
**Friday:** James Ramsey by the Brazzolottos †  
**Saturday:** JW & Frances Hand by Bob & Karen Hand †  
**Sunday:** For the People  
Theresa Mary Wolff by Tabor Wolff †

***Please pray for the ill and shut-ins:***

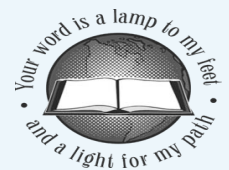
*Paul Boyle, Jacky Johnson, Peggy Gessler, Gail Layton, Diana Markevich, Dorothy DiMattia, Walton Smith, Juanita Crowson, Kelly Dale, Toni James, Bob Walsh, Sarah Svetlay, Charles & Libby Lafleur, Marti Baird, Fred Brown, Jan Bowman, Sylvia Moten, Wayne Adams, Herb Kuntz, Bill Frost, Audrey Springer, Patsy de Victoria, Christine Jaks, Jeanie Read, Ron Markevich, Joe Svetlay*

Please pray for all our loved ones who are ill and our shut-ins. To add a name, call the church office; or to add to the Prayer Hot Line please email Sharon Stice at [sharonstice46@gmail.com](mailto:sharonstice46@gmail.com) or call 205-613-1053.

*Weekly Readings ~ Dec 14—Dec 20*

- Monday:** Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6,7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27
- Tuesday:** Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19, 23; Mt 21:28-32
- Wednesday:** Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 7:18b-23
- Thursday:** Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
- Friday:** Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
- Saturday:** Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

*Today's Readings*



**First Reading** — As a garden makes its growth spring up, so will God make justice spring up before all the nations (Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11).

**Psalm** — My soul rejoices in my God (Luke 1:46-50, 53-54).

**Second Reading** — Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good (1Thessalonians 5:16-24).

**Gospel** — I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord. (John 1:6-8, 19-28).

## **COMMUNAL PENANCE**

This Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, our parish will have a communal celebration of Penance. It has become customary over the past forty years for parishes to have communal penance services during Advent and Lent (In preparation for Christmas and Easter). Most people still celebrate the sacrament of Penance individually.

The unique aspects of the communal celebration of Penance are the Liturgy of the Word, the Examination of Conscience, and the Rite of Reconciliation, which are done as a group. There is still the individual confession to a priest which completes the sacramental liturgy. In our case, Monsignor Sexton will also be available for the individual confessions.

The point of having a communal celebration of the sacrament of Penance is to acknowledge that I am not the only sinner in the parish. We are all in need of God's mercy. Jesus Christ died for sinners, which means He died for everyone. There is no shame in needing forgiveness. To err is human, to forgive divine.

The communal celebration also acknowledges that, though sin may be personal, it is never private. My sin weakens the Body of Christ. My sin offends God. It also offends the Church. If I am not the best example of Christianity, I am making it more difficult for other members of the Church to live out their faith.

Confession is a good way to prepare for the celebration of Christmas. It is a way to get our spiritual "house" in order. We try to get right with God and with others so that we can experience the peace that only Jesus Christ can give.

The Communal Penance Service begins at 7:00 p.m.

## Offertory Collection

July 2020 — June 2021

	Actual	Needed
Last Week	\$7,976	\$5,558
Year to Date	\$137,841	\$127,834

## Building Fund Collection

July 2020 — June 2021

	Actual	Needed
Last Week	\$2,658	\$678
Year to Date	\$20,574	\$15,594



**Chair: Jennifer Rosato:**

jrosato1972@gmail.com

**Vice Chair: Bernie Funderburg**

boxacarbern1@aol.com

**Secretary: Gloria Raynor:**

grodgers2010@gmail.com

**Matthew Allor:** mjallor.1969@gmail.com

**Sonia Dale:** wmksdale2000@gmail.com

**Britton Falkner:** brittonfalkner@gmail.com

**Debbie Gossett:** debbiegossett@msn.com

**Bart Perry:** brpgep07@yahoo.com

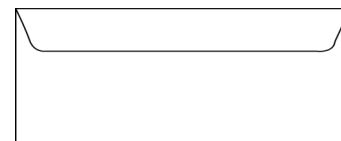
**Allen Ross:** allentross5555@gmail.com

**Council meetings are open to all parishioners, and are typically on the third Wed. of the month after Mass.**

**In order for your Contributions to the parish to be included for 2020 year, please have them to the church office by Wednesday, December 30, 2020.**

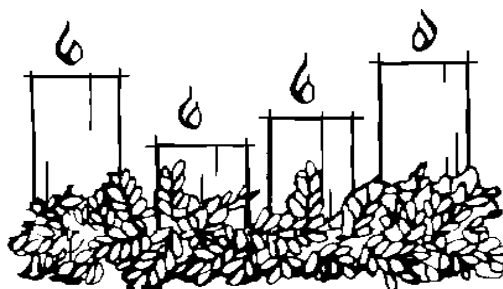
**If E-giving, enter any 2020 contributions into Faithdirect by December 15, 2020.**

## Offertory Envelopes



**The 2021 Offertory Envelopes are in the parish hall and ready to be picked up.**

**If you don't see your name, please sign the sheet and we'll make sure you receive envelopes. Please contact the church office if you have questions at 205-525-5161**



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## CONFESSION SCHEDULE FOR ADVENT

Wed., Dec. 16th: 7:00 pm **Communal Penance Service**  
Fri., Dec. 18th: 9:30-10:30 am  
Sat., Dec. 19th: 3:30-4:50 pm  
Sun., Dec. 20th: 9:45-11:00 am (between Masses)  
Sun., Dec. 20th: 7:00-7:45 pm (during Adoration)  
Wed., Dec. 23rd: 5:30-6:30 pm



You may also schedule an appointment at 205-525-5161.

## *Assignments—Dec 16~ Dec 20*

### **WEDNESDAY MASS 12/16/2020 7:00 PM**

**Lector:** Sarah Brazzolotto  
**Ministers:** Deacon

### **SATURDAY MASS 12/19/2020 5:00 PM**

**Greeters:** Charles Gibson, Paige Everett  
**Lector:** Sara Reese  
**Ministers:** Deacon  
**Ushers:** Mark McRae, Amy Carreker

### **SUNDAY MASS 12/20/2020 8:30 AM**

**Greeters:** Tommie Johnson, Sonya Lewis  
**Lectors:** Megan Price  
**Ministers:** Deacon  
**Ushers:** Matt Allor, Laura Headley,  
Belia Solis, Grant Stice

### **12/20/2020 11:15 AM**

**Greeters:** S&L Routzahn, Lydia Smith  
**Lectors:** Robert Lewis  
**Ministers:** Deacon  
**Ushers:** Chris Gallegly, Andy Payant,  
Caleb Bluhm, Emily Bluhm

**If you are unable to keep your assignment, please find a substitute.**

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**You may enroll by visiting our website, or logging in directly to [faith.direct/AL1065](http://faith.direct/AL1065).**



THIRD SUNDAY OF *Advent*

\*\*\*\*\*

**For faith formation  
at home try...  
Our parish code is  
JRQNH8**



**No Nursery at this time**

**December 13th**—RE @ 9:45 (High School reconciliation) Adult Education: *The Chosen* episode 5, after the 8:30 Mass in the parish hall.

**December 14th**—Encore presentation of *The Chosen* episode 5 @ 7pm in the parish hall

**December 15th**—RCIA 7pm

**December 16th**—Parent Meeting for First Communion Class @6pm

**December 16th**—Communal Advent Penance Service @ 7pm

**December 20**—RE @ 9:45

Adult Education: *The Chosen* episode 6, after the 8:30 Mass in the parish hall.



**Youth Group  
CHRISTMAS PARTY!**

Bring one unlabeled, gift-wrapped present (under \$5) & join us for some holiday food and fun!

**Sunday, December 20th, 5:30pm until \*7pm (Grades 5th -12th)**

*\*Families are invited to attend Holy Hour immediately following the Youth meeting.*

*(Follow Us on Facebook and Instagram!)*

## Advent Wreath Candle Lighters

### Third Sunday of Advent

**Saturday, December 19**

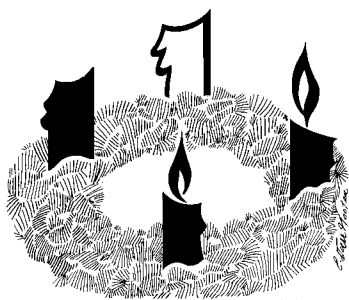
**5:00 pm Mass– Bob & Candy Nicholas**

**Sunday, December 20**

**8:30 am Mass– The Mann Family**  
**11:15 am Mass - Meagan & Michael Price**

### Advent Communal Penance Service at Our Lady of the Lake

Please join us Wednesday, December 16th for a Communal Penance Service at 7:00 pm.



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## Calendar for Dec 13~ Dec 20, 2020

**Sunday - December 13**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

Mass-8:30 and 11:15 am

RE- 9:45-11:00 am

RE Confessions– High School

Adult Education-9:45 am in Parish Hall

**Monday– December 14**

Mass 9:00 am

Adult Education 7:00 pm in Parish Hall

**Tuesday– December 15**

Mass 9:00 am

RCIA-7:00 pm

**Wednesday–December 16**

Communal Penance Service- 7:00 pm

**Thursday– December 17**

Mass 9:00 am

**Friday– December 18**

Mass 9:00 am

Reconciliation 9:30-10:30 am

**Saturday– December 19**

Reconciliation 3:30-4:50 pm

Mass 5:00 pm

**Sunday– December 20**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Mass 8:30 and 11:15 am

RE 9:45-11:00 am

Adult Education-9:45 am in Parish Hall

Reconciliation 9:45-11:00 am and

7:00-7:45 pm

Youth Group- 5:30 pm

Holy Hour 7:00 pm

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# Catholic

## UPDATE

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DECEMBER 2020



## The Holy Family

AN EXEMPLARY MODEL  
FOR LIVING A LIFE OF FAITH

A REDEMPTORIST PASTORAL PUBLICATION

REST DURING THE FLIGHT INTO EGYPT, FRANCESCO MANGINI, EARLY 1700S

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ANNUNCIATION, BAROCCI, 1852-84

## Annunciation

*The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary.*

LUKE 1:26-27

Mary is "greatly troubled" by what the angel then says to her. What does it mean to "have found favor with God" and be

chosen for such an unbelievable task? To be a virgin and yet conceive? To be little more than a child herself and yet be a mother? To call a Son Jesus and yet not have been with her husband? "How can this be?" she asks, and it's easy to understand her dismay and fear. And yet she comes to understand and accept. For the Holy Spirit brings her not only the seed of life but a glimpse of understanding. Just enough to move her forward to say yes, she will do this.

*Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word."*

LUKE 1:38

Joseph is anxious to begin his life together with Mary. He takes his promise of love seriously, and he accepts and cherishes her. Then the earth gives way beneath him as she tells him the strange story of the angel and of the Spirit-given life now growing within her. One could hardly blame him for the charitable route he chooses. He will dismiss her quietly to protect her name and his. He will start over and seek a new life, somehow. But then he has his own encounter with an angel of the Lord.

*The angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her."*

MATTHEW 1:20

He is convinced, like Mary, that something greater than both of them is at work. In Bethlehem, a Child is born. And there, for the shepherds, the voices in the night grow louder and more glorious, as if urging them on. They are still at first. When quiet returns they decide to act.

*The shepherds said to one another, "Let us go...to see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger.*

LUKE 2:15-16

The Infant in the manger was tucked into straw, his eyes open to them. They tell the parents what they heard in the field, expecting surprise but receiving only kind smiles in return. These simple men had no doubt that something big had happened, and they had to tell everyone.

Thus we are introduced to the Holy Family: Mary, Joseph, and Jesus—an exemplary model of faith and living in the world. As we celebrate this season, let us explore through the eyes of classic art how we can strengthen our bond and be drawn deeper into the mystery of our faith.



THE FALL AND EXPULSION FROM GARDEN OF EDEN, MICHELANGELO, 1509-10

## Immaculate Conception: The New "Eve"

*[God asked,] "Where are you?"...  
"I heard you in the garden; but I  
was afraid, because I was naked, so  
I hid."*

GENESIS 3: 9-10

Adam's words reveal the drama of a soul hiding from God. Michelangelo represented this essential story on his famous Sistine Chapel ceiling. In this chapel, inside the Vatican, where the popes are elected, he depicts the drama of our struggle to say yes to God—a response that Mary gave so freely.

Once our first parents were duped into not trusting God, Adam and Eve knew their relationship with him had profoundly changed. Their fear of being "naked" reflects a feeling of defenselessness, exposure, and shame. The natural next step for the guilty soul who distrusts God's love and mercy is to run and hide. All parents can relate to the pain and sorrow experienced when their child prefers to conceal a problem rather than come under the protection of their mercy and understanding. God responds as any loving parent would. He goes in search of his confused and hurt children.

The whole of the Old Testament is God going out into the garden of humanity and searching for his people again and again. Close to or on each December 8, we celebrate the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the human being who, with her yes, fully and definitively allowed the human family to be embraced by God. Mary is the new Eve, the daughter of the Father who reverses this trend of sin, fear, and evasion. Preserved as she was from any stain of original sin in view of her call to be the Mother of God, she lived a life of trust and love. The most natural thing for her was to run toward God, to confide in his loving fidelity, and to let herself be guided by him.

She is our example. If you are hiding from God, Advent is the perfect time to let yourself be found. If there is some interior wound or failure that keeps your heart far from fully receiving God's love, then take the Blessed Mother's example and return trustingly to him. Hear God tell you the same thing he told her. "Do not be afraid, Mary...." Strive to follow Mary's lead and always respond just as she did, as she says in Luke 1:38:

*"May it be done to me according to  
your word."*

**The whole of the Old Testament is God going out into the garden of humanity and searching for his people again and again.**

## Prayer to Mary: Heart of the Holy Family and Queen of Saints

Dear Mary, Mother of God and my mother,  
You had an extraordinary role to play in the Incarnation of the second person of the Blessed Trinity, your Son, Jesus Christ.

You were the heart in the home of the Holy Family, where you were more of a mother than a queen, caring daily for the needs of Jesus and St. Joseph.

Teach me to take time, like you did, to reflect on the moments of God's grace in my life, pondering them in my heart.

Help me to see how important it is to go to Jesus in the sacrament of reconciliation on a regular basis and to take time each day to pray.

Since you are the Queen of Saints, intercede for me to the King of Saints, Jesus Christ, and assist me in my efforts to become a better Christian.

Amen.



*Mary, teach me to  
take time, like you did,  
to reflect on the moments  
of God's grace.*

From *Holy Family Prayer Book:  
Prayers for Every Family* (827266),  
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Liguori Publications



THE NATIVITY, PINTURICCHIO, 1498

### Holy Family: *The Nativity*

In Pinturicchio's painting, Mary is depicted in royal blue, her hands are folded in joy, and she is kneeling in admiration of her newborn child. She is keenly aware of the mystery she contemplates, for she knows in her flesh that this is the Child of the Most High. For nine months, she wondered how he would be and what he would look like. She spoke to him when she couldn't sleep, prayed to him when she didn't understand, and mused about him when she was given to daydreaming.

And now the word had become flesh and dwelt with her. As we make the journey toward Bethlehem with the Holy Family, may we prayerfully embrace them as a model of faith and living in the world.

*I adore you, O Jesus, and I bless you, because by your Incarnation and life you have changed my life and redeemed the world. Amen.*

John the evangelist proclaims the truth eloquently in his holy Gospel:

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*

JOHN 1:1

The Word always was, and all things came to be through the Word. The Word was light that shines in darkness and overcomes it. But the Word was not content to sit alone and apart, shining light like a sun on a distant and lifeless planet. The Word took on flesh and lived among us. The Word breathed our air, drank our water, and lived our lives so he could understand more fully what it means to be created and loved. The Word became Jesus, taking a name so we might know what it means to be called by our name into a life of faith, hope, and love.

Mary beheld the glory of the Lord and was the first to look upon the unseen face of God. What joy must have filled her heart in these moments! The wonder must have been overwhelming. Contemplate her. Talk with her.

In this work of art, Jesus lies directly in the open air upon a rich red cloth with

the hay of the manger under his head. He is out in full view of the passersby and of you and I who adore him now. Jesus came for all and, even in his first moments of life, the world comes to him.

Pinturicchio fills the scene with those first called to behold Jesus. Angels sing from the heavens.

*Glory to God in the highest and peace to people of good will.*

This mystery amazed the angels, who had experienced worshiping Jesus in heaven and then saw him in a manger. Our response should be like theirs: be amazed at God's plan, give glory to God, and adore at the feet of Jesus.

Yet the life of the Holy Family was not only in beautiful, peaceful Bethlehem. It also meant the humble obedience that led them to exile in Egypt (Matthew 2:14), a scene from which is depicted on the cover of this newsletter. Joseph obeyed the angel, and Mary and Jesus followed. May we, too, trust in the paths God lays before us and follow him wherever he leads us.

Imprimi Potest: Stephen T. Rehauer, CSsR, Provincial, Denver Province, the Redemptorists. Scripture texts in this work are taken from the *New American Bible*, revised edition © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Washington, DC, and are used by permission of the copyright owner. All Rights Reserved. No part of the *New American Bible* may be reproduced in any form without permission in writing from the copyright owner. Except as noted, the text was written by Fr. Mark Haydu, LC, international coordinator of the Patrons of the Arts in the Vatican Museums; and Steve Givens, author and facilitator of workshops and retreats on Christian spirituality.