



4609 Martin Street South, Cropwell, AL 35054
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Rev. William P. Lucas, Pastor

Deacon Terrence Rumore

Deacon Serge Brazzolotto

Deacon E. Lee Robinson

Director of Religious Education
Music Director
Parish Secretary

Jim Mathis
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. - 4:45 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.-10:30 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:

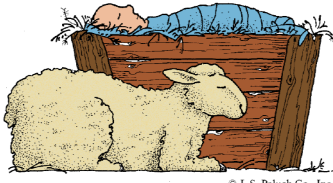
August through May. Ages 3 yrs. through
High School.

Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church

Saturday, December 17, 2022
Mass 5:00 pm

Sunday, December 18, 2022
Masses 8:30 am & 11:15 am

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 18, 2022



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The virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel. —Isaiah 7:10-14



December 19 - December 25

- Monday:** Libby LeFleur by Deacon Terry & Rita Rumore
Tuesday: Greta Rizzo by Fr. William Lucas †
Wednesday: Carmen Perez by James & Gloria Raynor †
Thursday: Robert Hollis by Bob & Karen Hand †
Friday: Jim Gorman by Deacon Terry & Rita Rumore
Saturday: Paul Boyle Sr. by Bob & Karen Hand †
For the People
Sunday: Osvaldo Jimenez by the Jimenez Family †

Please pray for the ill and shut-ins:

Ron & Diana Markevich, Walton Smith, Juanita Crowson, Toni James, Bob Walsh, Sarah Svetlay, Fred Brown, Silvia Moten, Wayne Adams, Herb & Sherry Kuntz, Bill & Loretta Frost, David & Audrey Springer, Christine Jaks, Jeanie Reid, Ruth Stanley, Jackie Thoma, Janice Stella, Frank Troncalli, Angela Ledlow, Michael Brayman, Shannon Ray, Lee Walser, Geri Bunt, Jay Benson, Charles & Libby LaFleur, Marcia Mortek, Benny Goodman, Margaret Banks, Jose Riveria, Helen Turner, George Sobolowski, Darrell & Teresa Reeser, Jimmy Hollis, William Konnor Stone, Bit Thomaston, Marti Baird

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 or call 205-613-1053.

Weekly Readings December 19—December 25

- Monday:** Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
- Tuesday:** Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
- Wednesday:** Sg 2:8-14; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
- Thursday:** 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
- Friday:** Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66
- Saturday:** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79
- Sunday:** Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27-29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25
Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18

Today's Readings



First Reading — You will be given this sign: the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel (Isaiah 7:10-14).

Psalm — The king of glory shall come in (Psalm 24).

Second Reading — God has called us to belong to Jesus Christ (Romans 1:1-7).

Gospel — The son born of Mary shall be called Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. He shall be Emmanuel, "God is with us" (Matthew 1:18-24).

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.

THE TIME IS NEAR

Today we light all the candles on the Advent Wreath. Through the time of Advent, the light of the candles has been growing. The candles themselves have been getting shorter.

The growing light and shorter candles tell us Christmas is getting closer. The time between now and Christmas is "short". The celebration of Christ's birth is near. We need to complete our spiritual preparation, so Christ will find us ready for His arrival.

It also means it's not too late! We can use the remaining days of Advent to get our "spiritual house" in order. Through prayer and penance, we can prepare to receive Christ with joy because we have made Him the center of our Christmas celebration. We can remove the sins and sinfulness that prevent us from opening our hearts to Christ.

The growing light and shorter candles also remind us that Christ must increase, and we must decrease. (John 3, 30) Jesus Christ is the light of the world. We are the candles, or lamps, through which He shines. For Christ's importance to grow in our lives and in our world, we must shrink in self-importance. We must believe we are instruments Christ can use to bring His presence into the world.

When I was a child, Christmas was all about me: what gifts I got and what joy I experienced. Today, I believe Christmas is all about Christ and the joy that comes from knowing He is near. In order to experience Christ's nearness, we must be generous rather than self-centered. If we haven't figured that out yet, there is still time, but the time is growing short.

In the Greek language, there are two words for time. One is *Chronos*. It means time in the sense of days. The other word is *Kairos*. It means time in the sense of opportunity, as in, "now is the time." May we use the *Chronos* of Advent as a *Kairos* to prepare ourselves for the celebration of Christ's birth.

Due to the Christmas and New Year's Holiday, the Parish Office will be closed on the following days.

December 22, 2022

December 26, 2022

January 2, 2022

Our Lady of the Lake 2022 Christmas Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 24 – 4:30 pm

Saturday, December 24 - 8:30 pm

Sunday, December 25 – 9:00 am



The Choir will be singing Christmas Carols before each Christmas Eve Mass.

MISSA EN ESPANOL (MASS IN SPANISH)

Beginning on January 11th, the monthly Second Wednesday Mass and Holy Hour will be in Spanish. The new missalette contains the English translation on the facing page. All are invited to attend, but the readings and prayers will be in Spanish.

Empezando el 11 de Enero, el segundo Miercoles la misa y Hora Santa serán en español.

El nuevo missal contiene la traduccion al Ingles en la pagina principal. Todos estan invitados pero las lecturas y oraciones serán en español.

Offertory

July 2022 — June 2023

Actual **Needed**

December
11
Offertory

No offertory
count this week
due to early
production of
the bulletin



Chair: Jeff Reach
jreach@protonmail.com

Vice Chair: Bernie Funderburg
boxacarbern1@aol.com

Secretary: Brenda Rochford
edenrochford@yahoo.com

Mary Burns: angels4maryb@gmail.com

Leslie Hutto: ljhutto@gmail.com

Britton Falkner: brittonfalkner@gmail.com

Debbie Gossett: debbiegossett@msn.com

Allen Ross: allentross5555@gmail.com

Cristy McKinney: cmckinney9839@gmail.com

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



Surfsiders



The Surfsiders will have their monthly meeting this Wednesday, December 21st at 10:00 am in the Parish Hall. This includes a potluck lunch, games and fellowship. All seniors are invited! You need not be Catholic to attend.

HOLY MOMENTS

As a Christmas gift, the parish is giving all parishioners a free book! It is Matthew Kelly's latest book, Holy Moments. You can take one for yourself or give it to someone who can benefit from it. Father Bill will lead a four-week book study on Holy Moments during the month of January. It will take place between the masses on Sunday and on Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m., beginning January 8th.

END-OF-THE-YEAR GIVING

The final day of this year that the parish office will be open is December 29th. For your contribution to count for the 2022 calendar year, it must be in the office by that date. Contributions received after that date will not appear on your 2022 parish contribution statement.

SILENCE BEFORE AND AFTER MASS

The 15 minutes before Mass and the 15 minutes following Mass are used by some people as a time for prayerful preparation and thanksgiving. That is why we try to maintain a "reverential silence" in the church during those times. Fellowship is also a part of our faith, but the place for that is in the foyers of the church or outside. Please try to be respectful of the needs of others and maintain a reverential silence in the church before and after Mass.

Father Bill

Bishop Robert Barron's

"THE CREED"

The keys that unlock the beliefs of the Christian Faith are stated in the Nicene Creed, which we pray at every Sunday Mass. This formal statement of Faith is the foundation of Christianity, and to this day, most Christians around the world would subscribe to it.

The last presentation will be on Sunday between the Masses and again on Monday night at 7:00 pm.

December 18-19 - Episode. 6 – One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church...



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Advent is a meaningful time to reflect on your generosity. One special way to give is eGiving. It can simplify your stewardship and provide steady, consistent support to the parish – so we can be ready with programs, services, and ministries for church families and those in our community. Your recurring gifts will sustain our parish, even if you are not at OLL for Sunday Mass.

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- Visit www.ollpellcity.com/donations/collection_basket
- Call Faith Direct Customer Service at 866-507-8757

Thank you and may God bless your generosity.

Assignments

December 21, 2022 - December 25, 2022

WEDNESDAY MASS

12/21/2022 7:00 PM

Lector: Charmaine Welch

Ministers: Deacon

SATURDAY MASS- CHRISTMAS EVE

12/24/2022 4:30 PM

Greeters: Allen Ross, Loretta Frost

Lector: Sarah Brazzolotto, Jorge Solis

Ministers: Martha Hayes, Anita Allor,
Parma Boyle, Edgar Solis

Altar Servers: Destiny Markevich, Ethan Myers

Ushers: Michael Gagliano, Bart Perry,
Phillip Thomaston, Matt Allor

SATURDAY MASS- CHRISTMAS EVE

12/24/2022 8:30 PM

Greeters: Gagliano/Sadler/Thomas

Lector: Carl Rochford, Carly Sadler

Ministers: Michael Gagliano, Ronni Thomas,
Brenda Rochford, Jane Snider

Altar Servers: Tom Graffo, Dennis Veigl

Ushers: Chris Gallegly, Bill Bethell,
Lexie Smith, Andy Payant

SUNDAY MASS- CHRISTMAS DAY

12/25/2022 9:00 AM

Greeters: Amelia Reese, Alexis Allor

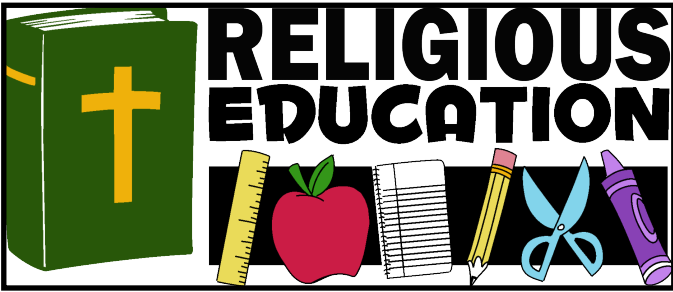
Lectors: Buddy Spradley, Karen Reese

Ministers: Chris Gallegly, Sophie Alvarez

Altar Servers: Stephen Reese, David Blaylock

Ushers: Karen Hand, Sam Marston

If you are unable to keep your assignment, please find a substitute. Arrive 15 minutes ahead of Mass and sign in at the back of the church.



Christmas is Almost Here!

Now, it is only 6 days until Jesus' birthday! Are you all ready for it? If you have an Advent wreath, then this is the week that all the candles will be lit. Jesus is coming soon, so the light should be getting very bright!

Do you have a Christmas tree? Do you know what it represents? A long time ago, people used to have plays at Christmas time about how Adam and Eve sinned when they ate the fruit from the tree, and how Jesus was born to save us from that sin. So, a Christmas tree is there to remind us of why Jesus came!

Does your family have a nativity scene? It should be all ready for Christmas, but the Baby Jesus doesn't get put in the manger until Christmas Eve!

Source: The Kids' Bulletin

FORMED
FAITH AT HOME

Parish Code: **JRQNH8**

Looking Ahead:

December 18th - RE 9:45am-11am

December 25th - Mass 9am; NO R.E.

Merry Christmas!

January 1st - Happy New Year! No R.E.

January 8th - R.E. Second Semester begins.

January 15th - No R.E. MLK Jr. Holiday

January 22 - RE 9:45-11am



Youth Group!

Join us on Wednesday nights 5:30-7pm for food, fellowship, and fun!

Jr. Youth - K-5

Sr. Youth - 6-12

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.”

- Mark 12:30

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONFESSION

As we approach Christmas, Father Bill will be available for confessions at additional times:

- Sunday, December 18th between Masses.
- Monday, December 19th after the 9:00 am Mass.
- Wednesday, December 21st before the 7:00 pm Mass.
- Friday, December 23rd after the 9:00 am Mass.
- Saturday, December 24th- 3:00-4:00 pm

He is always available by appointment at 205-525-5161.

HOMEBOUND AND HOSPITALIZED

If you are unable to get to Mass and would like to receive communion or have a visit from a priest or deacon, please call the parish office and let us know.

The phone number is 205-525-5161.

Also, Deacon Serge's number is 205-753-3230; Deacon Lee's number is 205-936-9330; Deacon Terry's number is 205-253-9223.

Ushers Needed!

We are in need of Ushers for the 11:15 am Mass on Sundays. Please see Michael Gagliano 205-937-8933 to volunteer.

Sunday– December 18– 4th Sunday Advent

Masses- 8:30 & 11:15 am

RE– 9:45 am

Adult Ed-The Creed– 9:45 am

Confessions Between Masses

Holy Hour– 7:00 pm



Monday– December 19

Mass 9:00 am

Adult Education-The Creed-7:00 pm

Tuesday– December 20

Mass 9:00 am

Bible Study Group-9:45 am

Wednesday–December 21

Surfsiders– 10:00 am

Confessions before Mass

Mass 7:00 pm

Thursday– December 22

Mass 9:00 am

Parish Office Closed

Friday– December 23

Mass 9:00 am

Confessions After Mass

Saturday– December 24– Christmas Eve

Confessions 3:00-4:00 pm

Masses 4:30 & 8:30 pm

Christmas Carols 1/2 Hour Before Each Mass

Sunday– December 25– Christmas Day

Mass– 9:00 am

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