



**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 24, 2022  
Mass 5:00 pm

Sunday, December 25, 2022  
Masses 8:30 am & 11:15 am

### The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

December 25, 2022



*The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it—John 1:5*



December 26 - January 1

- Monday:** Frances Matukus by Sharon Stice †
- Tuesday:** Sue Durham by Pat & Brenda Monte †
- Wednesday:** Jacky Johnson Sr. by Bob & Karen Hand †
- Thursday:** Adela Amaya by James & Gloria Raynor †
- Friday:** Patti Benson by Jay Benson †
- Saturday:** Matthew Brazzolotto by Susan Moseley
- Sunday:** For the People  
For All the Souls in Purgatory  
by James & Gloria Raynor †

#### *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, Pat Roberts

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 December 26—January 1

- Monday:** Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
- Tuesday:** 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
- Wednesday:** 1 Jn 1:5—2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18
- Thursday:** 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:36-40
- Friday:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-5; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
- Saturday:** 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
- Sunday:** Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

## Today's Readings



**First Reading** — All the ends of the earth will behold the salvation of our God (Isaiah 52:7-10).

**Psalm** — The whole world has seen God's salvation (Psalm 98).

**Second Reading** — God has spoken to us through the Son, the very imprint of God's being (Hebrews 1:1-6).

**Gospel** — The Word became flesh; from his fullness we have all received grace (John 1:18).

## **A SAVIOR IS BORN FOR US**

Christmas has arrived! After four weeks of preparation, it is now time to celebrate the Birth of Jesus Christ. Ready or not, here He comes! Though we are celebrating His birth, it is Jesus who gives us the gift. The gift is Himself.

Babies are like that. They need the help of other human beings to survive. But they have this ability to look at us with a look that says, "I'm glad you're here!" They bring out of us a depth of love and compassion we didn't know we had. As one of my nieces once said to me, "I'm glad I know you!"

Christmas is an opportunity for us to say to Jesus, "I'm glad I know you! My life is better because you're in it." Because of their faith in Jesus, the saints experienced a depth of love and compassion they didn't know they had. Jesus, being fully human, makes us more fully human.

Jesus Christ is *the* savior. Salvation is found in no one else. In the Gospel of John, Jesus says, "I am the way and the truth and the life." (14, 6) Jesus is *the* way, not one way among many. When the excitement of Christmas has worn off, Jesus will remain. He will always be there to rescue us from sin and death.

The point of Christmas is that we would become more "Jesus-like". We can be merciful to others because Jesus has first been merciful to us. We can have the same compassion for the wayward as Jesus has shown us when we have gone astray. Then, slowly, the world will be remade in the image Jesus Christ made it in the beginning.

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth." (John 1, 14) Jesus Christ is near, today and all days.

Merry Christmas!

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

***December 26, 2022***

***January 2, 2022***

## **Solemnity of Mary**

### **Masses**

**Saturday, December 31, 2022- 5:00 pm**

**Sunday, January 1, 2023- 8:30 am**

**Sunday, January 1, 2023- 11:15 am**



### **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 Collection

July 2022 — June 2023

	Actual	Needed weekly
December 11 Offertory	\$10,078	\$6,774
Year to Date	\$163,689	\$162,576

## The Christian Love Pantry

The Christian Love Pantry is helping the poor in the St. Clair County area. To assist them we are collecting canned soup at the church. You can leave donations in either vestibule.

There is also a box for cash donations in each vestibule. If you prefer, you may drop your donation at the parish office during normal office hours.



**Goal –400 cans/month**  
**Cans donated to date in December– 81 cans**  
 Please consider donating \$1 per week



**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.**

## END-OF-THE-YEAR GIVING

The final day of this year that the parish office will be open is December 29<sup>th</sup>. 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

## 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 8<sup>th</sup>.

## Bible Study Group

Please join us for a special Bible Study studying the Gospel of John. The group will meet each Tuesday morning at 9:45 am in the Parish Hall.



## Hope. Love. Joy. Peace.



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](http://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 28, 2022 - January 1, 2023*

### **WEDNESDAY MASS**

**12/28/2022 7:00 PM**

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

### **SATURDAY MASS-**

**12/31/2022 5:00 PM**

**Greeters:** Paige Everett, Karen Hand  
**Lector:** Buddy Spradley, Pat Blum  
**Ministers:** Tom Graffo, Martha Hayes  
**Altar Servers:** Roger Carreker, Andy Payant  
**Ushers:** Karen Hand, Sam Marston

### **SUNDAY MASS- Solemnity of Mary**

**1/01/2023 8:30 AM**

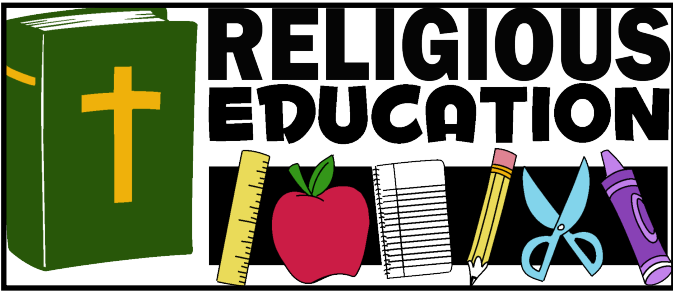
**Greeters:** Diana Stephens, C&B Rochford  
**Lectors:** Meagan Price, Alexis Allor  
**Ministers:** Teri Gagliano, Anita Allor, Patrick Everett, Jorge Solis  
**Altar Servers:** James Raynor, Jeff Reach  
**Ushers:** Michael Gagliano, Bart Perry  
Phillip Thomaston, Robert Paulitzky

### **SUNDAY MASS- Solemnity of Mary**

**1/01/2023 11:15 AM**

**Greeters:** Shirley Skelvelas, P Cowart & P Lopez  
**Lectors:** Michael Poteracki, Stephanie Fischer  
**Ministers:** Sophie Alvarez, Sonya Lewis, Lexie Smith, Bernie Funderburg  
**Altar Servers:** Caleb Bluhm, Logan Bluhm  
**Ushers:** Chris Gallegly, Jerrold Bluhm, Lexie Smith, John Bluhm

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.



### Happy Birthday Jesus!

Today we celebrate Jesus' Birthday!

For many years people had been waiting for God to send them a Messiah who would save them from their sins. When the time was right God Himself became a Baby and was born of the beautiful and holy virgin Mary. His name was Jesus and today is His birthday!

What do you do on Christmas? Is it a big celebration? Do you think about whose birthday it is? Jesus gave Himself to us because He loved us. What can you do to show your family that you love them?

*Source: The Kids' Bulletin*

**FORMED**  
FAITH AT HOME

Parish Code: **JRQNH8**

### Looking Ahead:

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

# Annual Respect Life Mass and Witness for Life

Saturday, January 14, 2023

Respect Life Mass · Bishop Steven Raica  
9:00 AM · Cathedral of St. Paul  
2120 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. N, Birmingham, AL

Prayer Vigil and Witness for Life  
10:45 AM · Planned Parenthood  
1019 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. North, Birmingham

205-447-8796 · [www.birminghammarchforlife.com](http://www.birminghammarchforlife.com)

## 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 25— Christmas Day

Mass— 9:00 am

### Monday— December 26

Parish Office Closed  
Mass 9:00 am

### Tuesday— December 27

Mass 9:00 am  
Bible Study Group-9:45 am

### Wednesday—December 28

Mass 7:00 pm

### Thursday— December 29

Mass 9:00 am  
Legion of Mary 7:00 pm

### Friday— December 30

Mass 9:00 am

### Saturday— December 31

Confessions 4:00-4:45 pm  
Mass 5:00 pm

### Sunday— January 1— Solemnity of Mary

Masses— 8:30 am & 11:15 am

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