



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, January 7, 2023
Mass 5:00 pm

Sunday, January 8, 2023
Masses 8:30 am & 11:15 am



The Epiphany of the Lord January 8, 2023

*Magi from the east arrive looking for the
newborn king of the Jews*

—Matthew 2:1-12



January 9 - January 15

- Monday:** Vicki Hopping by Fr. William Lucas †
- Tuesday:** Edna Townes by Fr. William Lucas †
- Wednesday:** Joseph A. Yester by KOC 12270 †
- Thursday:** Paddy Joseph by Deacon Terry & Rita Rumore †
- Friday:** Fr. Chad Putoff by Fr. William Lucas †
- Saturday:** Patti Benson by Sharon Stice †
- Sunday:** For the People
Frances Matukus by Shirley Skeivelas †

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 or call 205-613-1053.

Weekly Readings January 9—January 15

- Monday:** Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10; Mt 3:13-17
- Tuesday:** Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9; Mk 1:21-28
- Wednesday:** Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Mk 1:29-39
- Thursday:** Heb 3:7-14; Ps 95:6-11; Mk 1:40-45
- Friday:** Heb 4:1-5, 11; Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8; Mk 2:1-12
- Saturday:** Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 2:13-17
- Sunday:** Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 7-10; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34

Today's Readings



First Reading — Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! The Lord shines upon you and the glory of the Lord appears over you (Isaiah 60:1-6).

Psalm — All the nations will worship you, Lord (Psalm 72).

Second Reading — The Gentiles are coheirs, copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6).

Gospel — Magi from the east arrive looking for the newborn king of the Jews (Matthew 2:1-12).

A SENSE OF HUMOR

I Love being part of the Catholic Church! Like my family, there is always something to laugh about. It is fun to see what will happen next.

At the 4:30 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve, the Nativity Scene in our church had Mary, one of the Three Kings, three sheep, a donkey, and no Jesus! (No Joseph either.) It looked like it was put together by my four-year old great-niece. Except, if she put it together it would have included Barbie!

God loves us the way we are, and we are a mess! God hates our sins, but He loves us and wants us to be joyful because we know we are loved by Him. The Old Testament describes God's love as "steadfast". It is unchanging.

God's love is also universal. God loves all that He has made, and no one exists unless they are made by God. The problem is not God's love for us. The problem is our lack of love for God and for each other. That may be why Jesus claims there are two greatest commandments: Love of God and love of neighbor.

Today is the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. Magi, astrologers from Persia (modern-day Iran), came to worship Jesus as "the King of the Jews". The stars could only lead them to the vicinity of Jesus. They needed the Old Testament to find Him. Their faith was imperfect, but they paid homage to Jesus. They promised to obey Him.

God does not love us because we are perfect. He loves us because He made us. We are supposed to love each other, not because we are perfect, but because we are all made by a loving God.

A sense of humor will help. It allows us not to take things too seriously but live in wonder at all things that happen that are beyond our control. Like Mary and Joseph, we can marvel at all God is doing.

HOLY MOMENTS BOOK STUDY

Father Bill is leading 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. The first session is Sunday, January 8th.

Pick up a book located in each foyer and join us at the book study!



**Worldwide Marriage Encounter
Region 5- Alabama
Sean and Angie Murray
Fr. Tim Pfander
Alabama Ecclesial Team**

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is now having In Person weekend experiences! Unlock the power of your relationship with new ways to do the "I do." Renew the romance and live your best life in love. Learn to become the best version of yourselves together! Alabama's next **IN PERSON WEEKEND IS MARCH 10-12, 2023** at St. Bernard Abbey in Cullman. You can get more information or register online at www.wwme.org or by calling Frank and Kathryn Wessling at 205-530-3607.

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
January 1 Offertory	\$3,965	\$6,774
Year to Date	\$189,441	\$182,898

Building Fund Collection

July 2022 — June 2023

	Actual	Needed Monthly
Building Fund– Month of December	\$6,930	\$2,540
Year to Date	\$29,263	\$16,510



Chair: Jeff Reach

jreach@protonmail.com

Vice Chair: Bernie Funderburg

boxacarbern1@aol.com

Secretary: Brenda Rochford

edenrochford@yahoo.com

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Debbie Gossett: debbiegossett@msn.com

Allen Ross: allentross5555@gmail.com

Cristy McKinney: cmckinney9839@gmail.com

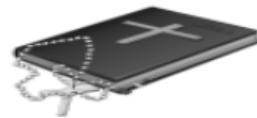
Council meetings are open to all parishioners, and are typically on the third Wed. of the month after Mass.

2023 Offertory Envelopes

We are still waiting on the 2023 Offertory Envelopes to arrive. In the meantime, please be sure and put your check or cash in a plain envelope with your name (and number if you know it) and we'll make sure you get credited with your donation.

Bible Study Group

Please join us for a special Bible Study every Tuesday morning at 9:45 am in the Parish Hall. We are finishing up the Gospel of John and will soon start on the Book of Genesis.



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

Change of Address or Contact Information?

Please let us know at the parish office if you have changed any of the below information so we can keep our records up to date.

- Change of address
- Change of phone number, including dropping a landline
- Change of email address

Call us at 205-525-5161 or email at parish@ollpellcity.com.

Attention Liturgical Ministers!

If you are scheduled to serve or substitute for someone at Mass as an Altar Server, Lector, Eucharistic Minister, Usher or Greeter, please be at the Church at least 15 minutes before Mass and recognize your presence on the schedule at the back of the church. It is important to know that everyone is here before Mass starts.



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Assignments

January 11, 2023 - January 15, 2023

WEDNESDAY MASS

1/11/2023 7:00 PM

Lector: Edgar Solis
Ministers: Deacon

SATURDAY MASS-

1/14/2023 5:00 PM

Greeters: Karen Hand, Allen Ross
Lectors: Martha Hayes, Marguerite Gorman
Ministers: Dawn Adamson, Edgar Solis
Altar Servers: Marty Poteracki, Chris Gallegly
Ushers: Bob Nicholas, Jay Benson

SUNDAY MASS

1/15/2023 8:30 AM

Greeters: Bit Thomaston, B&D Freeman
Lectors: Jane Snider, Jorge Solis
Ministers: Brenda Rochford, Teri Gagliano, Stephen Reese, Carly Sadler
Altar Servers: John Bryant, David Blaylock
Ushers: Michael Gagliano, Bill Bethell, Bart Perry, Phillip Thomaston

SUNDAY MASS

1/15/2023 11:15 AM

Greeters: Brenda Monte, Grace Troncalli
Lectors: Miranda Bryant, Doug Ross
Ministers: Buddy Spradley, Sophie Alvarez, Bernie Funderburg, James Raynor
Altar Servers: Ethan Myers, Destiny Markevich
Ushers: Andy Payant, Lexie Smith, Emily Bluhm

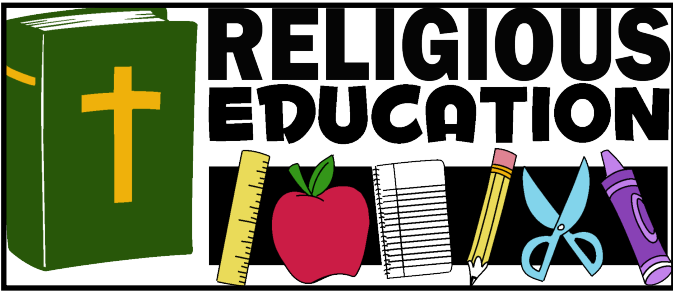
If you are unable to keep your assignment, please find a substitute. Arrive 15 minutes ahead of Mass and sign in at the back of the church.

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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Epiphany and Baptism of Jesus

This week, we celebrate both the Epiphany of our Lord and His baptism in the Jordan river. Today, (Sunday) is the Epiphany, which is the day that we remember the wise men from far away in the East coming to worship the newborn baby Jesus. God let them know that His Son was coming and gave them a special star in the sky to follow to find Him. When they found Jesus with His mother Mary, they knelt down and gave Him their precious treasures of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Tomorrow, (Monday) we celebrate the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan river. Jesus went to Saint John the Baptist, who was baptizing people and helping them repent from their sins. John knew that Jesus hadn't sinned but Jesus asked him to baptize Him anyway. This was the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. Until this time, He had been living a life hidden from the rest of the world.

Like the wise men, we can give Jesus our best treasure: ourselves! If we decide to live our lives for Jesus, then we will show the love of Jesus by our love for others!

Source: The Kids' Bulletin

FORMED
FAITH AT HOME

Parish Code: **JRQNH8**

Looking Ahead:

January 8th - First Day of RE, 2nd semester.
9:45-11am.

January 11th - Youth Group @ 5:30pm

January 15th - No RE, MLK Jr. Holiday.

January 18th - Youth Group @ 5:30pm

January 22nd - RE 9:45-11am.

January 25th - Youth Group @ 5:30pm.

January 29th - RE 9:45-11am.



Join us for Youth Group!

Jr. Youth Group

K-6th - Meets in the RE Building.

Sr. Youth Group

7-12th - Meets in the Parish Hall.

Join us for food, fellowship and fun as we grow closer to each other and our Lord!

“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 3rd Ave. N, Birmingham, AL

Prayer Vigil and Witness for Life
10:45 AM · Planned Parenthood
1019 1st Ave. North, Birmingham
205-447-8796

www.birminghammarchforlife.com

Calendar for January 8, 2023—January 15, 2023

Sunday— January 8

**Masses— 8:30 am & 11:15 am
RE— 9:45 am**

Adult Education— Holy Moments 9:45 am

Monday— January 9

Mass 9:00 am

Adult Education— Holy Moments 7:00 pm

Tuesday— January 10

Mass 9:00 am

Bible Study Group—9:45 am

RCIA— 7:00 pm

Wednesday—January 11

Youth Group— 5:30 pm

Mass 7:00 pm (Spanish)

Holy Hour/Adoration— 7:30-8:30 pm



Thursday— January 12

Mass 9:00 am

Legion of Mary 7:00 pm

Friday— January 13

Mass 9:00 am

Saturday— January 14

Confessions 4:00-4:45 pm

Mass 5:00 pm

Sunday— January 15

Masses— 8:30 am & 11:15 am

Adult Education— Holy Moments 9:45 am

Holy Hour— 7:00 pm



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Remember ★ Honor ★ Teach

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STATEMENT
ON THE PASSING OF POPE EMERITUS BENEDICT XVI
BY

Most Reverend Steven J. Raica
Bishop of Birmingham in Alabama

With deep sorrow, we, priests, deacons, consecrated religious, and faithful of the Diocese of Birmingham in Alabama join the faithful and people of good will throughout the world in mourning the loss of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. On this day, December 31, 2022, at 9:34 AM Rome time, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI returned to the house of the Father at the age of 95. From the day of his election as Pope, at which time I happened to be present, in St Peter's Square, he presented himself as a "simple and humble laborer in the vineyard of the Lord". After the long pontificate of Pope St John Paul II, that marked the next step in bringing the church into the twenty-first century, Pope Benedict carried the torch into the 21st century helping us understand what it meant to be a Christian.

From his first encyclical, *Deus Caritas Est*, issued on December 25 (Christmas), 2005, the first year of his pontificate, he noted in the opening lines: "Being Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction." He highlighted the fact that although he was a teacher *par excellence*, being a Christian has more to do with an encounter with an event, a person. That is the decisive moment that changes everything, bringing meaning and purpose to everything we do and the promise of an eternal destiny.

At this end of the year 2022, we give thanks to God for Pope Emeritus Benedict's life, his ministry, his teaching, and luminous witness to Christ. Here was someone who witnessed the joy of the Gospel because he encountered Jesus Christ, His Lord and Savior and for which he became a "simple and humble laborer in the vineyard of the Lord". May he rest in peace!

Most Reverend Steven J. Raica
Bishop of Birmingham in Alabama