



# Our Lady of the Lake

CATHOLIC CHURCH

4609 MARTIN STREET SOUTH  
CROPWELL, ALABAMA 35054



## Rev. William P. Lucas, Pastor

Deacon Terrence Rumore  
Deacon Serge Brazzolotto  
Deacon E. Lee Robinson

## PARISH OFFICE | 205-525-5161

Fax 205-525-5162  
Email [parish@ollpellcity.com](mailto:parish@ollpellcity.com)  
Hours Monday-Thursday  
9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Jim Mathis, *Director of Religious Education*  
Charmaine Welch, *Music Director*  
Shelly Hamman, *Parish Secretary*

## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday 8:30 and 11:15 a.m.

### Weekdays

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 a.m.  
Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

## CONFESSIONS

Saturday 4:00-4:45 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

## MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA

Mondays following Mass

## EVERY FIRST FRIDAY

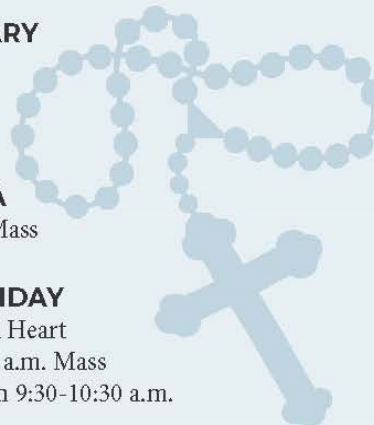
Novena to the Sacred Heart  
of Jesus before 9:00 a.m. Mass  
Eucharistic Adoration 9:30-10:30 a.m.

## HOLY HOUR OF ADORATION

Third Sunday of every month 7:00 p.m.  
Second Wednesday of every month | *Exposicion del  
Santísimo el segundo Miércoles de cada mes* 7:30 p.m.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

August through May  
Ages 3 years through High School



[www.ollpellcity.com](http://www.ollpellcity.com)

## Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church

Saturday December 2, 2023  
Mass 5:00 pm

Sunday, December 3, 2023  
Masses 8:30 am & 11:15 am



### First Sunday of Advent December 3, 2023

*"Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come.*

*-Mark 13:33*



December 4 - December 10

- Monday:** Frances Matukas by Shirley Skeivelas †
- Tuesday:** Mary Jo Sprouse by Walton Smith †
- Wednesday:** Edward Smallwood by Bob & Karen Hand †
- Thursday:** Bob Van Gundy by Jerry & Brenda Kern †
- Friday:** Mari Culver by Sharon Stice †
- Saturday:** Jennifer White by Susan Moseley
- Sunday:** Barbara & Bob Walsh  
by Deacon Terry & Rita Rumore
- For the People

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

Ron & Diana Markevich, Walton Smith, Juanita Crowson, Toni James, Bob Walsh, Fred Brown, Silvia Moten, Herb & Sherry Kuntz, Bill & Loretta Frost, David & Audrey Springer, Christine Jaks, Jeanie Reid, Ruth Stanley, Janice Stella, Frank Troncalli, Angela Ledlow, Michael Brayman, Lee Walser, Geri Bunt, Charles & Libby LaFleur, Marcia Morteck, Benny Goodman, Margaret Banks, Jose Riveria, Helen Turner, George Sobolowski, Jimmy Hollis, William Konnor Stone, Pat Roberts, Bill & Dee Watkins, Emily Bell Smith, Mary LaFleur, Micky Zielinski, Jim Reilly, Connie Parsons, Gayle Huff, Randy Gray, John Caterinichia, Karen Hand

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 4- December 10

- Monday:** Isaiah 2:1-5; Ps 122; Mt 8:5-11
- Tuesday:** Isaiah 11:1-10; Ps 72; Lk 10:21-24
- Wednesday:** Isaiah 25:6-10a; Ps 23; Mt 15:29-37
- Thursday:** Isaiah 26:1-6; Ps 118; Mt 7:21, 24-27
- Friday:** Gen 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
- Saturday:** Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147; Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8
- Sunday:** Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14; 2 Peter 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

## Today's Readings



**First Reading** — You, LORD, are our father, our redeemer you are named forever (Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7).

**Psalm** — Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved (Psalm 80).

**Second Reading** — God is faithful, and by him you were called to fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord (1 Corinthians 1:3-9).

**Gospel** — Watch, therefore; you do not know when the lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening or at midnight, or at cockcrow or in the morning (Mark 13:33-37).

## HOPE

There are four Sundays of Advent. They are represented by the four candles on the Advent wreath. Each candle represents a theme for the week of Advent. They are (in order) Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.

Pope Benedict XVI wrote that, as Christians, "we always have a future." (Spe Salvi) That is what it means to have hope: to believe there is always a future. But, more, to believe the future belongs to God. God is eternal. God has no beginning or end. As human beings, we have a beginning, but we will have no end.

As human beings, we can sometimes be nostalgic. We can long for the past, though usually the past we long for is imagined and never existed. As Christians, we can never be nostalgic. We must yearn for the future. According to the scriptures, the future we long for will be one where, "God may be all in all." (1Corinthians 15, 28) In the future, God will be everything in everyone. The less sin there is in the world, the closer we are to that future.

Advent is a penitential season. That is why it is a season of hope. The less we sin, the more hope we have. By clearing away our sins and increasing our virtues, we can have hope for a future with God. There is always hope that we can be better people; that we can be more like Jesus Christ in His longing to do the Father's will.

The first half of Advent focuses on the return of Jesus Christ and the end of the world as we know it. Whether that is Good News or bad news depends on us. Advent is an opportunity God gives us to prepare for the future with God by clearing away the wreckage of the past.

## OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> is the Solemnity of Our Lady of Guadalupe. It is an important day in the Latino world. On the day we will have two masses in our parish. There will be Mass at 9:00 a.m. in English and 7:00 p.m. in Spanish. Following the 7:00 Mass, there will be a procession of a statue of Our Lady from the church to the parish hall, followed by a fiesta. All are invited.

### Communal Penance Service

The parish communal penance service for Advent will be held on **Wednesday, December 20th at 7:00 pm**. Father Bill and Father Sexton will both be available for confessions. This is a good way to prepare for the Christmas season!



### Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup> is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. This day is a Holy Day of Obligation. There will be Masses at 9:00 am and 7:00 pm that day.



### Our Lady of the Lake Christmas Dinner

#### Celebrations

**Sunday, December 10, 2023**

**4:00-6:00 pm**

**Please join us as we celebrate the birth of Christ as a parish family. Our special friend from the North Pole will also join us.**

**Bring a side dish, sign up sheets are in the foyer. Meat and drinks will be provided.**

## Offertory Collection

July 2023 — June 2024

	Actual	Needed weekly
November 26 Offertory	\$4,255	\$7,264
Year to Date	\$154,011	\$159,808

## BANNS OF MARRIAGE



*We announce the upcoming marriage of Danielle Elizabeth McKinney of Our Lady of the Lake parish and Matthew Ty King of Huntsville, Alabama, whose wedding is scheduled for December 9<sup>th</sup> at Our Lady of the Lake Church.*

**The 2024 Calendars are here! Please take one located in each foyer of the church.**



**Chair: Brenda Rochford**  
edenrochford@yahoo.com

**Vice Chair: Jorge Solis**  
Jorge.Solis@butlersnow.com

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

**Jeff Reach:** jreach@protonmail.com

**Bernie Funderburg:** boxacarbern1@aol.com

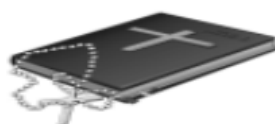
**Mary Burns:** angels4maryb@gmail.com

**Paul Thomas:** paulcthomas3@gmail.com

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

**Meagan Price:** meaganfprice@gmail.com

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



## Men's Bible Study

The Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a men's Bible study that will take place **starting on January 7th between the masses**. The group will meet in the conference room located in the back of the church fellowship hall. The course will run for 13 weeks which includes an introductory session. Books will be provided at no cost.

**Please register by December 10th.** Sign up sheets are in the foyers. Due to the holiday shipping challenges we want to give the publisher extra time to get the books to us prior to our first meeting.



## Advent Wreath Candle Lighters Second Sunday of Advent

**Saturday, December 9, 2023**

**5:00 pm Mass— Jim & Marguerite Gorman**

**Sunday, December 10, 2023**

**8:30 am Mass— Anthony Schillaci Family**

**11:15 am Mass— Wes Myers Family**



# Christmas Choir Practice

December 3 @ 9:45 a.m.

December 10 @ 9:45 a.m.

December 21 @ 6:00 p.m.

Any questions, please contact Charmaine Welch at 205-913-4967.

The Diocese of Birmingham will host the Diocesan Children's Choir Festival at St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic church on December 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm. For the first time, a choir will be comprised of children grades 3-8 from across our diocese. The choir will gather on Thursday, Dec. 14, and Friday Dec. 15 to practice and prepare the music for the concert on Friday at 5:00pm. If you would like your children to participate in this event, please scan the QR code to register.



## Diocesan Children's Choir Festival

December 14 & 15  
St. Mark's Catholic Church

### Pro Life Corner

### Ann's New Life Pregnancy Medical Center



**Wish List**  
**Size 4 Diapers**  
**Size 6 Diapers**

3440 Martin Street South, Suite 1, Cropwell, AL 35054  
Hours of Operation: Tuesday 9:00-5:00  
Wednesday/Thursday 9:00-4:00

## Assignments

December 6, 2023 - December 10, 2023

### WEDNESDAY MASS

**12/6/2023 7:00 PM**

Lector: Bernie Funderburg  
Ministers: Deacon

### FRIDAY MASS-IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

**12/8/2023 9:00 AM**

Greeters: Parma Boyle, Sonya Lewis  
Lectors: Mary Adams  
Ministers: Deacons  
Ushers: Bob Nicholas, Karen Hand

**12/8/2023 7:00 PM**

Greeters: Dennis & Sandy Veigl  
Lectors: Susan Moseley  
Ministers: Deacons  
Ushers: Michael Gagliano, Teri Gagliano

### SATURDAY MASS

**12/9/2023 5:00 PM**

Greeters: Paige Everett, Allen Ross  
Lectors: Susan Moseley, Sarah Brazzolotto  
Ministers: Parma Boyle, Tom Graffo  
Altar Servers: Bernie & Corey Funderburg  
Ushers: Karen Hand, Sam Marston

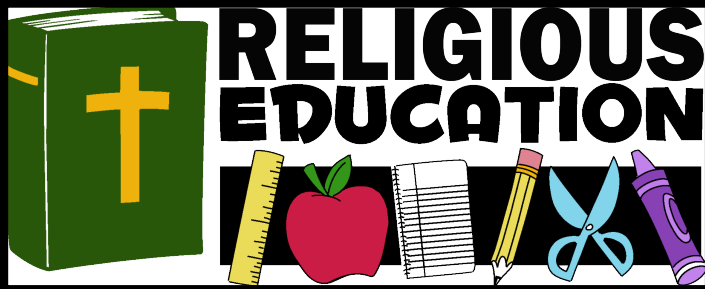
### SUNDAY MASS

**12/10/2023 8:30 AM**

Greeters: The Muellers, Shelly Hamman  
Lectors: Carl Rochford, Dennis Veigl  
Ministers: Jorge Solis, Brenda Rochford, Ronni Thomas, Paul Thomas  
Altar Servers: Stephen Reese, Michael Gagliano  
Ushers: Paul Thomas, Bill Bethell, Matt Allor, Phillip Thomaston

**12/10/2023 11:15 AM**

Greeters: The Bluhm Family  
Lectors: Doug Ross, Mary Adams  
Ministers: Gloria Raynor, Michael Poteracki  
Altar Servers: Logan Bluhm, Tommie Ann Johnson  
Ushers: Chris Gallegly, Lexie Smith, Danny Smith, Jeff Smith



# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## Looking Ahead:

**December 3**– RE-9:45 AM;  
3rd & 4th Grade Confessions-9:45 AM

**December 10**– RE– 9:45 AM;  
5th, 6th and 7th Grade Confessions–  
9:45 AM

**December 13**– Youth Group– 5:30 PM

**December 17**– RE– 9:45 AM;  
Confirmation Class Confessions–  
9:45 AM



## Join us for Youth Group!

Every other Wednesday evening

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

Knights of Columbus Prayer Service  
Our Lady of the Lake Grotto  
December 9, 2023  
10:00 am



Everyone is welcome!

Coffee & Donuts will be served.

Contact Bernie Funderburg with questions  
at 205-405-6382



# Christmas CONCERT

INCLUDING A SPECIAL  
PERFORMANCE BY THE PELL  
CITY SHOWSTOPPERS

DECEMBER

SUNDAY | 17 | At 6:00 pm

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE  
CHURCH  
4609 MARTIN ST S, PELL  
CITY, AL, 35054

## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE



Because December 25<sup>th</sup> falls on a Monday this year, there is an unusual situation for attending Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Advent and the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas).

Because both are Holy Days of Obligation, it is necessary to attend Mass **twice** that weekend.

For the Fourth Sunday of Advent, the Faithful can go to *any* Mass between 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> and 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>.

For Christmas, the Faithful can attend *any* Mass between 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> and 11:59 p.m. on Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>.

At Our Lady of the Lake, you can fulfill your obligation in the following ways:

### Fourth Sunday of Advent:

Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 pm.

Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 or 11:15 a.m. **or** 4:30 or 8:30 p.m.

### The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas):

Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 or 8:30 p.m.

Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

If you are travelling, check with the local diocese as far as what they require to fulfill your obligation. It may be different than the Diocese of Birmingham.

**Sorry, you cannot fulfill two obligations at one Mass.** You are obligated to attend Mass twice. I promise Masses for the Fourth Sunday of Advent will last less than one hour.

Father Bill Lucas

## Calendar for Dec 3, 2023—Dec 10, 2023

### Sunday— December 3

Masses— 8:30 & 11:15 am  
RE-9:45 am

Confessions-3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grades-9:45 am

Choir Practice— 9:45 am

### Monday—December 4

Mass 9:00 am

### Tuesday— December 5

Mass 9:00 am

Bible Study— 9:45 am

RCIA— 7:00 pm

### Wednesday—December 6

Novena- Our Lady of Guadalupe-6:00 pm

Mass— 7:00 pm

### Thursday— December 7

Mass-9:00 am

Legion of Mary— 7:00 pm

### Friday— December 8

### Immaculate Conception

Masses— 9:00 am & 7:00 pm

### Saturday — December 9

KOC Prayer Svc— Grotto— 10:00 am

Confessions 4:00-4:45 pm

Mass— 5:00 pm

### Sunday— December 10

Masses— 8:30 & 11:15 am  
RE-9:45 am

Confessions-5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, & 7<sup>th</sup> grades-9:45 am

Choir Practice— 9:45 am

Parish Christmas Dinner-Celebrations—  
4:00-6:00 pm

Holy Hour— 7:00 pm