



# 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 9, 2023  
Mass 5:00 pm

Sunday, December 10 2023  
Masses 8:30 am & 11:15 am



### Second Sunday of Advent December 10, 2023

*I have baptized you with water; he will baptize  
you with the Holy Spirit.*

-Mark 1:8



December 11 - December 17

- Monday:** Bob Van Gundy by Bob & Karen Hand †
- Tuesday:** Wayne Adams by Shirley Skeivelas †
- Wednesday:** Paul Centilli by Larry & Mary Esther Krantz †
- Thursday:** Robert Hollis by Bob & Karen Hand †
- Friday:** Bill & Loretta Frost by Deacon Terry & Rita Rumore
- Saturday:** Theresa Smith by Walton Smith †
- Sunday:** Margaret Banks 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 Walsler, Geri Bunt,  
Charles & Libby LaFleur, Marcia Morteck,  
Benny Goodman, Margaret Banks, Jose Riveria,  
Helen Turner, George & Pat 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 11- December 17

- Monday:** Isaiah 35:1-10; Ps 85; Lk 5:17-26
- Tuesday:** Rev 11:19a; 12:1-6a,10ab; Judith 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:39-47
- Wednesday:** Isaiah 40:25-31; Ps 103; Mt 11:28-30
- Thursday:** Isaiah 41:13-20; Ps 145; Mt 11:11-15
- Friday:** Isaiah 48:17-19; Ps 1; Mt 11:16-19
- Saturday:** Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
- Sunday:** Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

## Today's Readings



**First Reading** — Like a shepherd he feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the lambs (Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11).

**Psalm** — Lord, let us see your kindness and grant us your salvation (Psalm 85).

**Second Reading** — Therefore, beloved, since you await these things, be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace (2 Peter 3:8-14).

**Gospel** — Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths (Mark 1:1-8).

## PEACE

The theme of the second week (candle) of Advent is Peace. It is a much-talked-about topic now with wars going on in Ukraine, Israel, Gaza and many other places in the world. But peace is more than the absence of conflict. Peace is the fruit of justice.

In the Old Testament, the Hebrew word for peace is, "shalom". It refers to our relationship with God. When our lives are the way God wants them to be, we are experiencing peace. Jesus Christ came to bring us peace by reconciling us to the Father. Then we will be "justified", in right relationship with God. The result of being in right relationship with God is "shalom".

In our relationships with others, peace is the result of a just ordering of relationships. If there is injustice, either real or perceived, there is no peace. Even if there is no war, injustice will lead to conflict, which sometimes leads to war. Pope St. Paul VI wrote, "If you want peace, work for justice."

There are stories of Christians at war with each other calling a truce at Christmas. However, when Christmas was over, they went back to fighting. There is respect and disrespect for Jesus Christ involved in these actions. Everyone has the right to defend themselves. Perhaps addressing injustices is a more peaceful way to resolve conflicts.

One of the titles for Jesus Christ is "Prince of Peace". If we want peace both with God and with others, Jesus Christ is the one who can lead us to that goal. He came to earth to reconcile us to the Father by His passion and death. He left us an example of how to relate to God and others. His way is the way of peace.

## 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 that 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!

## Surfsiders



The Surfsiders will have their monthly meeting **Wednesday, December 20th at 10:00 am** in the Parish Hall. This includes a potluck lunch, games and fellowship. All seniors are invited!



## 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
December 3 Offertory	\$7,134	\$7,264
Year to Date	\$162,505	\$167,072

## 2024 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Please pick up your offertory envelopes for calendar year 2024 in the Parish Hall. If you do not see yours, please call the office at 205-525-5161.

**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.**



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 Third Sunday of Advent**

**Saturday, December 16, 2023**

**5:00 pm Mass— Alan & Christy Whaley**

**Sunday, December 17 2023**

**8:30 am Mass— The Largadas Family**

**11:15 am Mass— Jim & Julie Mathis**



# Christmas Choir Practice

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.



## 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 13, 2023 - December 17, 2023

### WEDNESDAY MASS

**12/13/2023 7:00 PM**

Lector: Gloria Raynor  
Ministers: Deacon

### SATURDAY MASS

**12/16/2023 5:00 PM**

Greeters: Karen Hand, Dawn Adamson  
Lectors: Marguerite Gorman, Martha Hayes  
Ministers: Buddy Spradley, Allen Ross  
Altar Servers: Dennis Veigl, Tom Michaels  
Ushers: Amy Carreker, Jim Gorman

### SUNDAY MASS

**12/17/2023 8:30 AM**

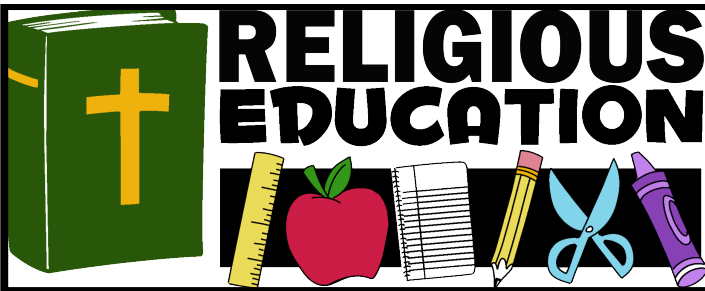
Greeters: B&D Freeman, The Veigls  
Lectors: Carey Monistere, Meagan Price  
Ministers: Teri Gagliano, Michael Gagliano, Stephen Reese, Anita Allor  
Altar Servers: Tom Graffo, David Hogan  
Ushers: Michael Gagliano, Bill Bethell, Phillip & Bit Thomaston

**12/17/2023 11:15 AM**

Greeters: R&C Betz, Shirley Skeivelas  
Lectors: Lexie Smith, Miranda Bryant  
Ministers: Chris Gallegly, James Raynor  
Altar Servers: John Paul Rodgers, Ethan Myers, Kalli Reach  
Ushers: Chris Gallegly, Jerrold Bluhm, Emily Bluhm, John Bluhm

### ATTENTION:

**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.**



# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## Looking Ahead:

**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

**December 24**– No RE

**December 31**– No RE



### 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!*

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONFESSION

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

- Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup> after the 9:00 am Mass.
- Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> –Communal Penance Service -7:00 pm.
- Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> after the 9:00 am Mass.
- Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>- between the 8:30 and 11:15 am Masses.

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



# 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 10, 2023—Dec 17, 2023

### **Sunday— December 10**

Masses— 8:30 & 11:15 am

RE-9:45 am

Confessions-5th, 6th, & 7th grades-9:45 am

Choir Practice— 9:45 am

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

Holy Hour— 7:00 pm

### **Monday—December 11**

Mass 9:00 am

### **Tuesday— December 12**

Mass 9:00 am

Bible Study— 9:45 am

Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass— 7:00 pm  
(Procession & Fiesta to follow)

### **Wednesday—December 13**

Mass— 7:00 pm

Adoration/Holy Hour (Spanish)- 7:30 pm

Youth Group— 5:30 pm

### **Thursday— December 14**

Mass-9:00 am

Legion of Mary— 7:00 pm

### **Friday— December 15**

Mass— 9:00 am

### **Saturday — December 16**

Confessions 4:00-4:45 pm

Mass— 5:00 pm

Pilgrim Virgin— 6:30 pm

### **Sunday— December 17**

Masses— 8:30 & 11:15 am

RE-9:45 am

Confessions-Confirmation Class-9:45 am

Pell City HS Christmas Concert-6:00 pm