

4609 Martin Street South, Cropwell, AL 35054
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Rev. Michael F. Sexton, Pastor

Deacon Terrence Rumore

Deacon Serge Brazzolotto

Director of Religious Education
Music Director
Parish Secretary

Parma Boyle
Charmaine Welch
Kathy Bryant

MASSES

Saturday Evening: 5 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.

Weekdays: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 9:00 a.m.

Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday—Thursday 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 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 Rosary.

EVERY FIRST FRIDAY:

Novena To The Sacred Heart
of Jesus - before 9 a.m. Mass.

Eucharistic Adoration 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

HOLY HOUR OF ADORATION:

Third Sunday of every month at 7:00 p.m.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

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

Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church

Saturday, February 21, 2015

Mass 5:00 pm

Sunday, February 22, 2015

Masses 8:30 am & 11:15 am

First Sunday of Lent February 22, 2015

*Your ways, O LORD, make known
to me; teach me your paths.*

— Psalm 25:4



Mass Intentions Feb. 23– March 1



Monday: Henry Lile & Al Troncalli by Frank Troncalli †
Tuesday: Tom Scruggs by Gisela Scruggs †
Wednesday: Timmy Centilli by Mary Ester Krantz †
Thursday: Marlene Catalino by Sam Catalino †
Friday: James Ramsey by The Brazzolottos †
Saturday: Sydney Sellers by The Morteys †
Sunday: John Landman by Parma and Paul Boyle †

Please pray for the ill and shut-ins:

*Dianna Markevich, Anne Forister, Alice Reid,
Lexie Smith, Gene & Walton Smith, Daniel Cen-
tilli, Wilson Fletcher, Hildie Bowman, Matt
Joiner, Pat Roberts, Antoinette Bruno, Richard F.
Marston*

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
call Sharon Stice at 205-338-0207, or email:
cocoapuff@centurytel.net

Please note that names remain on the
prayer list for 30 days and then are removed
unless the Church Office is notified.

Weekly Readings

Feb. 23 – March 1

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15

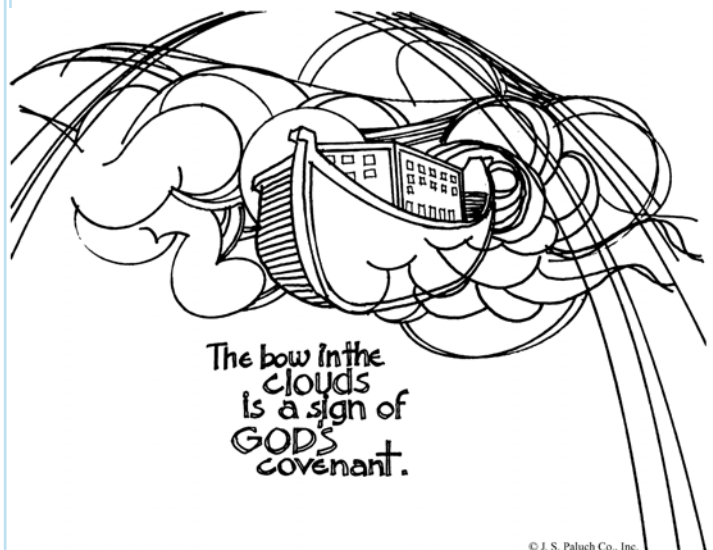
Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48

Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 116:10, 15-19; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10



The bow in the
clouds
is a sign of
GOD'S
covenant.

Pastor's Message

Welcome to the Liturgical Season of Lent with its purple color and meatless Fridays and almsgiving. It is the harbinger of spring when days begin to lengthen; the earth turns toward the sun to bring warmer days. Christians turn toward God with new resolve, impelled by God's Grace.

The Church's Ritual Books describe Lent this way: "The annual observance of Lent is the special season for the ascent to the holy mountain of Easter. Through its twofold theme of repentance and baptism, the season of Lent disposes both the catechumens and the faithful to celebrate the paschal mystery...The faithful, listening more intently to the Word of God and devoting themselves to prayer, are prepared through a spirit of repentance to renew their baptismal promises."

Lent is about deepening our Baptismal commitment to follow Christ more faithfully by distancing ourselves from sin. It is also a time to immerse ourselves daily in Sacred Scripture and prayer. And we must not forget the poor and the needy. To fast from food and the excesses that choke our lives is a time-honored approach to Lent. Almsgiving is always recommended.

The first Sunday of Lent traditionally presents the Gospel story of the temptations of Jesus. This year the account is from Mark's Gospel. Mark's version of the temptation of Jesus in the desert is the short version. Longer versions are found in Matthew and Luke. All three accounts place the incident after Jesus' baptism in the Jordan by John the Baptist.

Mention of the temptation for "forty days in the desert" recalls the key experience of the people of Israel in the Book of Exodus. There is no suggestion here, however that Jesus' encounter with Satan involves a struggle. Rather, Mark gives us a scene where Jesus is in control, steadfast between "wild beasts" and ministering angels. This is an icon of original humanity, only this time there is no sinning.

Mark sounds the Lenten theme with the words of Jesus; "The Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the Good News". In both the Hebrew and Greek language, the word "repent" used here means "to turn around" or to change one's heart. This call to change is not a warning but a promise; it is the "time of fulfillment".

Friday Fish Fry Dinners: Prepared by the Knights of Columbus on the Fridays of Lent (5:00 pm to 6:45 pm) in the Parish Hall. Bring your family and share a meal with others and then join us for the Lenten Stations of the Cross at 7:00 pm.

In Memoriam: We are saddened at the untimely death of John Landman, husband of Marianne Landman of our Parish. John was a gentleman and a gentle man who spoke only words of kindness. His exceptional care for his daughter, Valerie, with her special needs, was an inspiration to us all and gives new meaning to "being pro-life". To his family we offer our sympathy and prayers. Pray he will rest in peace and rise in glory.

Peace and Blessings,

Fr. Sexton

Calendar of Events Feb. 22 - March 1

Sunday—February 22

Mass 8:30 am & 11:15 am

- * RE
- * Lenten Penny Bong Begins
- * Rites of Sending & Elect 11:15 am & 4:30 pm Lunch 1 pm

Monday—February 23

Mass 9 am

- * Bridge
- * Legion of Mary

Tuesday—February 24

Mass 9 am

- * RCIA 7:00 pm

Wednesday—February 25

Mass 7 pm

- * Surfsiders 10:00 am
- * Parish Council after Mass

Thursday—February 26

Mass 9 am

- * Confirmation Sponsor/Candidate Mtg. 6:00 pm

Friday—February 27

Mass 9 am

- * Bible Study 10 am
- * KOC Fish Fry 5:00-6:45pm
- * Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm

Saturday—February 28

Mass 5 pm

Sunday—March 1

Masses 8:30 am & 11:15 am

- * RE
- * Lenten Penny Bong
- * Youth Mass 11:15 am
- * Reconciliation Gr. 2 & 3
- * No Adult Ed in March
- * Confirmation Saint Reports Due

FINANCE NEWS
July 2014-June 2015
Last week

	Actual	Budget
*Offertory:	\$ 4466.25	\$ 5481.00
	<u>Year-to-date</u>	
*Offertory:	\$ 223,042.61	\$ 191,835.00

Family Vocations Day:
Celebrating "The Joy of the Gospel" and
the Year of Consecrated Life!

Saturday, March 7, 2015
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church
5514 Double Oak Lane
Birmingham, Alabama 35242

**The whole family is invited to this free
event!**

Registration and info :
www.birminghamvocations.com

**Please contact the Office of Vocations with
any questions: 205-838-2184.**



Knights of Columbus
Council 12270

The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal service organization open to Catholic men, 18 and older, in good standing with the faith. Being a Knight is more than camaraderie: it is being involved with your community; it is supporting your church, while enhancing your family life. Come see what we are all about.

Contact:

James Raynor 205-884-1777 or
J.P. Willi (205-338-3131).

Our website is : www.ollkofc.com.

Next meeting February 23, 7:00 pm.



The Love Pantry

The Love Pantry has requested that we bring cans of soup each week to help meet the needs of our Community.

Total cans last week - 60 cans.

Ministry Spotlight



All ministries need volunteers to help in many ways. Are you involved in the life of our Parish?

Altar Servers

This ministry is for boys and girls in the 4th grade and above who would like to serve our Lord at his altar. Scheduled Masses are on Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday and Holy days. Servers are also required for weddings, funerals and other special services or events.

For more information please contact
Stephen Reese: 205-937-5658.



Pro Life Corner

Ann's New Life Center is in need of a children's table and chairs set. If you would like to donate these items, please call 205-338-4580. Thank you for your continued support of Ann's New Life Center through prayer and your donations. Together we can make a difference!

Announcements

Lenten Regulations

The annual observance of Lent is the special season for the ascent to the holy mountain of Easter. Through its twofold theme of repentance and baptism, the season of Lent disposes both the catechumens and the faithful to celebrate the paschal mystery. Catechumens are led to the Sacraments of Initiation by means of the Rite of Election, the scrutinies, and Catechesis. The faithful, listening more intently to the word of God and devoting themselves to prayer, are prepared through a spirit of repentance to renew their baptismal promises.

The Catholic Church, in an attempt to help Catholics do at least a minimum during Lent, asks all Catholics to fast and abstain from meat on certain days. **Fasting means** to limit food to one full meal a day with the possibility of two smaller meals (not adding up to a full meal) as needed. **Abstinence means** not eating meat, although fish is allowed. Catholics are asked to observe all days of fasting and abstinence which is one of the precepts of the Church.

Catholics 14 years of age or older are to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent.

Catholics between the ages of 14 and 59 are also to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. If one's work or health make it inadvisable to fast or abstain from meat, they are not obligated to do so.

Special Collection Feb. 21 & 22, 2015 Black & Indian Mission Collection

Your support provides the presence of missionaries here in African America, Native American and Alaska Native missions, schools and religious education programs. Your sacrifice addresses the need to train catechists, permanent deacons and seminarians for future generations here in many of our neighborhoods.

ASSIGNMENT LIST FOR Feb. 25 – March 1

WEDNESDAY MASS **2/25/2015** **5:00 PM**

Altar Servers
Lectors Charmaine Welch
Ministers

SATURDAY MASS **2/28/2015** **5:00 PM**

Altar Servers Tom Graffo, James Raynor
Greeters Gloria/Red Albright, Julie Paulitzky
Lectors Larry Reese, Sonia Dale
Ministers Deacon, Parma Boyle, Mary Smith, Sue Poteracki
Ushers Jerry Noto, Jim Dale, Jim Gorman, Bob Nicholas

SUNDAY MASS **3/1/2015** **8:30 AM**

Altar Servers Matthew Reese, Amelia Reese, Stephen Poteracki, Sophie Poteracki
Greeters Crapet/Freeman, Crapet/Freeman
Lectors Bernie Funderburg, Karen Reese
Ministers Deacon, Stephen Reese, Michale Gagliano, Ronnie Gagliano
Ushers Michael Gagliano, Gregg Becnal, Chris Frey, Laura Headley

11:15 AM **YOUTH MASS**

Altar Servers Paul Boyle, James Lewis, Will Pittman, Ethan Young
Greeters Shelby Hall, Natalie Newcomb
Lectors James Pittman, Travis Cooley
Ministers Deacon, Monica Liverman, Layne Monistere, George Hannah, Ryan Murphree
Ushers Matthew Frey, Andrew Thomaston, Will Thomaston, Tad Euler

**If you cannot keep your assignment
PLEASE find a substitute.**

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BY: PARMA BOYLE, DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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Take time for a Holy Pause

Family Questions of the Week

Questions are based on Sunday Readings.

First Sunday of Lent * February 22, 2015

Theme: Reform your lives!

Question for Adults: What is the one area of your life which you most want to "reform" as you get ready to embrace the Gospel, what is it?

Pregunta para los adultos: ¿Cuál es el área de su vida que más desea "reformular" mientras se prepara para abrazar el Evangelio?

Question for Youth: Lent gives us a chance to do things differently – to "go to the desert." How can you make Lent a time for growing in faith?

Pregunta para los jóvenes: La Cuaresma nos da una oportunidad de hacer las cosas de otra manera, de "ir al desierto". ¿Cómo puedes hacer que la Cuaresma sea un tiempo de crecimiento en la fe?



JOIN US AT OUR YOUTH GROUPS

LITTLE ONES IN CHRIST Grs PreK-Gr 2

Next Mtg: MAR 8 12:30-2:30pm

Contact Joanna Murphree 473-1444

JR YOUTH Grs 3-6 **Next Mtg: MAR 8 * 5-7pm**

Contact Sonya Lewis 863-7305.

SR YOUTH Grs 7-12 Meets every 1st & 3rd Wed++

Next Wed Mtg: FEB 18 * 5:30pm

We will be Fasting for ASH WEDNESDAY

Instead of dinner we will find out what Lent is all about! Contact Peter Boyle 613-5435



CONFIRMATION

SPONSOR/CANDIDATE MTG.

Thur, Feb 26 * 6pm in the hall

Religious Education 2014-2015

Every Sunday at 9:45 am.

Grs PreK4 thru 12



COMING UP * MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

Feb 22 1st Sunday of Lent

RE/ Penny Bong begins

Rite of Sending 11:15am & Rite of Elect 4:30pm

Feb 24 Tues RCIA 7pm

Feb 26 Thur Confirmation Sponsor/Candidate Mtg 6pm.

Feb 27 Bible Study 10am Eucharist & Scripture

Fish Fry 5-6:45pm

Stations of the Cross 7pm

Mar 1 2nd Sunday of Lent

RE/Penny Bong continues

RE class Reconciliation Grs 2 & 3

Confirmation Saint reports due

Youth Mass 11:15am

Mar 6 First Fri Mass 9am Adoration following til 12:30

Bible Study 10am

Fish Fry 5-6:45pm

Stations of the Cross 7pm

Mar 7 Sat Confirmation Retreat 7am-6:30pm

Mar 8 3rd Sunday of Lent

RE/Penny Bong continues

RE class Reconciliation Grs 4 & 5

Little Ones in Christ Grs PK-Gr 2

12:30-2:30pm Lunch Served

JR YOUTH Grs 3-6 * 5-7pm Dinner Served

DATES AND INFORMATION FOR THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Feb 26 **Sponsor Candidate Meeting** 6pm in the hall

Mar 1 **Saint Reports are Due** during RE

Mar 7 **Confirmation Retreat** 7am-6:30pm

Mar 14 **Presentation of Saint Report and Lunch**

10am in the hall for the Women at the Well.

Mar 22 **Reconciliation** during RE. A PRIORITY!

April 26 **Service Hours Due**

May 6 & 7 **Personal Interviews** with Fr Sexton.

4-6:30pm

May 11 **Dinner with Bishop Baker** 4:45pm

Candidates only.

Sacrament of Confirmation Mass 7pm

!!SAVE THE DATES!!

MARCH 9, 10, 11 * 7pm



**LENTEN
MISSION**

**February is dedicated to
The Passion of Our Lord**

**Join Fr. John Paul from EWTN
Topic: God is searching for you!**

!!!SAVE THE DATES!!!



SOMETHING DIFFERENT IS ABOUT TO TAKE PLACE!

Beginning with the first Sunday of Lent, Feb

22nd and at the 8:30am Mass only, we will be asking our children from Kindergarten thru Grade 3 to join us at a Children's Liturgy of the Word. We will call children forward to the altar after the Opening Prayer (the Collect) and take them to the Library; there we share with them the Scripture Readings for Sunday on their level. We will have a lesson on the Gospel and an activity that relates the Scripture readings to their little lives. Children will be returned to their parents before we pray the Creed. In living out Pope Francis' evangelization, we hope that our youth will begin to get a better understanding of the Scriptures. Your child is not forced to join us, but for a Pilot Program, we encourage all children from K to Gr3 to join us!

If you have younger children they are welcome in our Nursery. We encourage parents to work together with their older children on why it's so important to be at Mass and in the presence of Christ. We ask for prayers for this program, if it goes well we will continue throughout the year. If you are interested in helping out please contact Parma 405 0948. Peace and Prayers ☺

Saint Bernard Preparatory School
 Boarding and Day School, Grades 7-12
OPEN HOUSE
 Sunday, March 8, 2015 2-4 pm
 1600 St. Bernard Dr. ,S.E.
 Cullman, Alabama 35055
www.stbernardprep.com
 Contact:
admissions@stbernardprep.com or 256-255-5890

WONDERING WHAT TO DO FOR LENT?

Try one of the following:

PRAY for our RCIA members.

Arlivia Adderhold, Armando Arellano, Renee Bentel, Meleah Boyle, Corey Dunn, Jody & Tiffany Harkins, Jatoiya Pattom, Jerome & Anna Schell, Toni Smith, David Vines, Jennifer White

Pictures will be both foyers. Please introduce yourself, pray and encourage these candidates as they continue their RCIA Journey through Holy Saturday. A wonderful way to share your faith, build new friendships and build the Kingdom of God.

FAMILY CHALLENGES:

FISH FRY 5-6:45pm Every Fri in Lent
 Gather the Family and keep the Fast!
 Dine with the K of C



Following the Fish Fry *PRAY with us
THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS 7 pm.



Pick up your cross and follow me. Pray the **Passion of our Lord** as a family. Jesus asks, "Won't you spend 1 hour with me?"

What Else can I Give Up for Lent?

Chocolate? - Ice Cream? - Soda? Many of us try to be more disciplined for Lent and give up something that we really like. That's great! Fasting has always been an important tradition of Lent. This year however, let us also consider other things that we can give up.

- Give up complaining—Focus on gratitude**
 - Give up bitterness—Turn to forgiveness**
 - Give up worry—Trust in God**
 - Give up discouragement—Be full of hope**
 - Give up hatred—Return good for evil**
 - Give up anger—Be more patient**
 - Give up gossiping—Control your tongue**
- Here's to a HAPPY HOLY LENTEN SEASON!**

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