



**4609 Martin Street South, Cropwell, AL 35054**  
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**[www.ollpellcity.com](http://www.ollpellcity.com)**      **[parish@ollpellcity.com](mailto:parish@ollpellcity.com)**

**Rev. Michael F. Sexton, Pastor**

**Deacon Terrence Rumore**

**Deacon Serge Brazzolotto**

Director of Religious Education  
Music Director  
Parish Secretary

Tammy Ingels  
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.-12:30 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, December 19, 2015

Mass 5:00 pm

Sunday, December 20, 2015

Masses 8:30 am & 11:15 am



### Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2015

Welcoming a Year  
of God's Mercy



### Mass Intentions

Dec. 21– Dec. 27



**Monday:** Malvina Cueria by Susan Mosely †  
**Tuesday:** Michael Anderson by Laura Headley †  
**Wednesday:** Avalon Balker by Laura Headley †  
**Thursday:** Christmas Eve  
**Friday:** Christmas Day  
**Saturday:** Marlene Catalino by Sam Catalino †  
**Sunday:** Adela Amaya by Gloria Raynor †

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

Dianna Markevich, Anne Forister, Alice Reid,  
Lexie Smith, Gene & Walton Smith, Daniel  
Centilli, Hildie Bowman, Matt Joiner, Pat Rob-  
erts, Mary Adams, Jay Benson, Jerry Noto, Judy  
Dawley, Wayne Adams, Paul Boyle.

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](mailto:cocoapuff@centurytel.net)

Please note that names remain on the pray-  
er list for 30 days and then are removed un-  
less the Church Office is notified.

## Weekly Readings December 21– December 27

**Monday:** Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

**Tuesday:** 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

**Wednesday:** Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66

**Thursday:** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79

**Friday:** Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]  
Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14  
Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20  
Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

**Saturday:** Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22

**Sunday:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

### Today's Readings



**First Reading** — From you, Bethlehem, shall come forth one who is to be ruler in Israel. (Micah 5:1-4a)

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

**Second Reading** — By Christ doing the will of God, we have been consecrated. (Hebrews 10:5-10)

**Gospel** — “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb”. (Luke 1:39-45)

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## Pastor's Message

### A Meeting Suffused in Light- - -

The Fourth Sunday of Advent places Mary at the center of the Scriptures visiting her cousin, Elizabeth in the hill country—doing what countless people are doing at this time of year: visiting family and friends across the miles to spend Christmas.

Luke notes that Mary “Hurried off to share the good news with Elizabeth”. The meeting of the two women is itself a revelation as Elizabeth proclaims a blessing upon Mary and the child in her womb.

Mary's visit is a source of great joy and blessing for Elizabeth. The very sound of Mary's voice becomes a moment of recognition for Elizabeth. The baby in Elizabeth's womb, John the Baptist, leaps for joy.

What seems like an ordinary, everyday visit of two friends, two cousins, becomes a moment of extraordinary encounter. It is both revelatory and transforming.

Elizabeth wonders why she has been so privileged. Why is it “that the mother of my Lord should come to me?”. It is likely that her visitors in the hill country in those days were few.

And who is your grandmother or parent or aunt, or anyone wearied and worn with years that you, a teenager, a busy adult, should visit them? Who is such a one? Someone for whom your coming will light up the day.

We can bring happiness to another person by a simple visit to a neighbor who lives alone or a forgotten resident in a nursing home or a family grieving for a recent loss. Christmas has so much to do with visitation—God visiting our earth to dwell with us.

This time of the year invokes gratitude too. Gratitude for all who lend a helping hand, who go the extra mile, who volunteer out of kindness. Thanks to all the wonderful parishioners who volunteered and worked so hard to make the parish Christmas dinner a beautiful experience in fellowship. A special thanks to Karen Hand and her many helpers for an amazing meal that nourished us in body and spirit.

### Christmas Thoughts and Wishes too:

The miracle of Christmas is upon us once again, its age-old promise undimmed. Luke's beautiful Christmas narrative (read at the Christmas Masses) reminds us that the human condition is now suffused with God's beauty. As Fr. John O'Donohoe, the Scripture scholar, puts it: “The human condition has been radically changed by the coming of Christ and this is cause for good news of great joy. He has changed our lives forever with his presence, with his power, with his love”.

From Deacon Terry and Deacon Serge and the pastoral staff, members of the pastoral council and myself, we wish you the best Christmas blessings, deep peace and abiding joy. You make every day a Christmas day. A blessed Christmas to you and yours.

Peace and Blessings,

*Fr. Sexton*

## Calendar of Events Dec. 20- Dec. 27

### 4th Sunday of Advent

#### Sunday-Dec. 20

**Masses 8:30 am & 11:15 am**

\*RE 9:45 am

\*SR Youth Social 5 pm

\*Praise & Worship 6:30 pm

\*Holy Hour 7 pm

\*Reconciliation 3,4,5

#### Monday-Dec. 21

**Masses 9 am**

\*Bridge

\*Legion of Mary

#### Tuesday-Dec. 22

**Mass 9 am & 7 pm**

\*NO RCIA

#### Wednesday-Dec. 23

**Mass 7 pm**

### Christmas Eve

#### Thursday-Dec. 24

**Mass 4:30 pm (Youth Mass) & 8:30 pm**

\*Carols begin at 4:00 pm & 8:00 pm

\*Children's Pageant at 4:30 Mass

### Christmas Day

#### Friday-Dec. 25

**Mass 9 am**

#### Saturday-Dec. 26

**Mass 5 pm**

\*Reconciliation 3:30-5:00 pm

#### Sunday-Dec. 27

**Masses 8:30 am & 11:15 am**

**Feast of the Holy Family**

\*No RE

\*Blessing of Babies

**FINANCE NEWS**  
**July 2015-June 2016**

Last week

	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>
*Offertory:	\$ 6341.24	\$ 5770.00

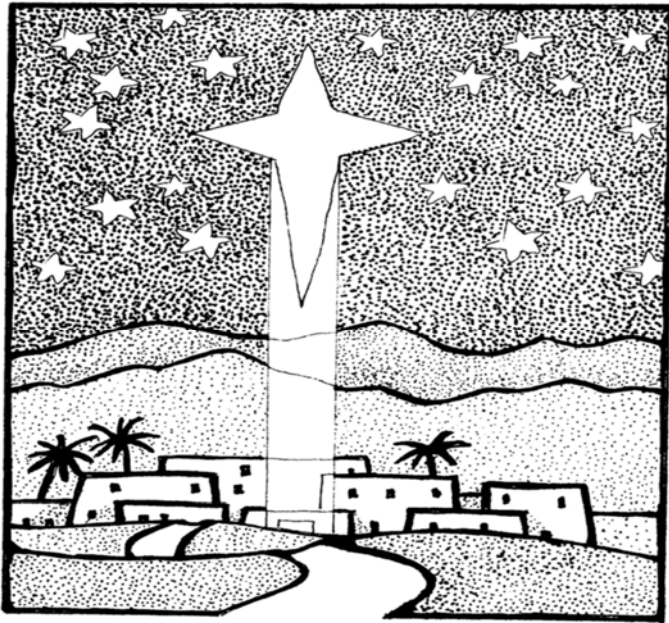
Year-to-date

*Offertory:	\$ 144,486.33	\$ 138,480.00
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Distribution of gifts will be December 20th, following the 11:15 Mass. If you are available to help please come to the Hall.

Thank You from the Social Concerns Committee.



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**2016 Offertory envelopes are available for pickup in the Church Hall. If yours is not there please call the office: 205.525.5161.**



## The Love Pantry

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

**Goal -100 cans/week.**

**Total cans last week – 160 cans**

## Saints and Special Observances

*Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent*  
*Monday: St. Peter Canisius; Winter begins*  
*Wednesday: St. John of Kanty*  
*Thursday: The Vigil of Christmas*  
*Friday: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)*  
*Saturday: St. Stephen; First day of Kwanzaa*



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## Pro Life Corner

### Our Lady of the Lake Spiritual Adoption Program

#### Month 7

Thank you for praying for me. I am 7 months old now. I am growing every day. I'm between 14 and 17 inches long and weigh about 4 ½ pounds. I move around a lot, but it's getting crowded in here! Sometimes I even get hiccups! I can hear and recognize my mother's voice.

A Reminder:

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg you to spare the life of the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of abortion

Please remember to pray daily for your Spiritual Adopted Baby and the baby's mother and father.



## Announcements

### Advent Wreath Candle Lighters



### Fourth Sunday of Advent

**Saturday, December 19th**  
5 pm Mass - **Bob & Karen Hand**

**Sunday, December 20th**  
8:30 am Mass - **Tony Hollis**  
11:15 am Mass - **Krantz Family**

### Assignment List Dec. 23- Dec. 24

#### WEDNESDAY MASS 7:00 PM 12/23/2015

Altar Servers \*

Lectors Sarah Brazzolotto

#### CHRISTMAS EVE MASS 12/24/2015

#### 4:30 PM YOUTH MASS

Altar Servers \*

Greeters \*

Lectors \*

Ministers \*

Ushers \*

#### 8:30 PM

Altar Servers \*

Greeters Julie/Bob Paulitzky, Brian/Francis Poteracki

Lectors Robert Lewis, Joe Stanley

Ministers Deacon, Brenda Rochford, Sara Reese, Sarah Brazzolotto, Matthew Brazzolotto

Ushers Herb Kuntz, Chris Gallegly, Ron Sellers, Jennifer Sellers

### Assignment List Dec. 25- Dec. 27

#### CHRISTMAS DAY MASS 12/25/2015

#### 9:00 AM

Altar Servers Sophie Poteracki, Matthew Reese, Amelia Reese

Greeters Patsy Lopez de Victoria, Patrick Cowart

Lectors Tony Hollis, Karen Reese

Ministers Deacon, Stephen Reese, Andrew Reese, Chris Gallegly, Lee Walser

Ushers Bob Hand, Karen Hand, Bob Nicholas

#### SATURDAY MASS 12/26/2015

#### 5:00 pm

Altar Servers Chris Gallegly, Tom Michaels

Greeters Susan Mosely, Nancy Ross

Lectors Sonia Dale, Larry Foltz

Ministers Connie Hertrich, Allen Ross, Phyllis Ross

Ushers Cecil Rodgers, Bob Hand, Karen Hand, Jim Gorman

#### SUNDAY MASS 12/27/2015

#### 8:30 AM

Altar Servers Anthony Emerick, Michael Emerick, Jimillia Sayles, Brennan Cardenas

Greeters Rosemary Mateer, Jimillia Sayles

Lectors Meagan Freeman, Dennis Veigl

Ministers Deacon, Joe Stanley, Ruth Stanley, Rosemary Mateer, Janice Stella

Ushers Michael Gagliano, Rosemary Mateer, Mike Gordon, Isabel Loera

#### 11:15 AM

Altar Servers Paul Boyle, Ryan Murphree, Katie Boyle, Troy Rosato

Greeters Shirley Skeivelas, Frank Troncalli

Lectors Jim Morteck, Marcia Morteck

Ministers Deacon, Mary Adams, Wayne Adams, Tom Graffo, Tommie Ann Johnson

Ushers Don Frederick, Johnny Armstrong, James Pittman, Layne Monistere

**If you cannot keep your assignment**

**PLEASE find a substitute.**

# RELIGIOUS Education

Radiating HIS Love  
by learning and living our Catholic Faith.

*A Time  
of Hope*

*Fourth Sunday  
of Advent*



*Behold,  
a Virgin  
shall conceive  
and bear a son;  
and his name  
will be called  
Emmanuel.*

*Is 7:14*

## *Advent Reflection*

“The spirit of Advent largely consists in living close to Our Lady during this time when she is carrying Jesus in her womb. We can think of the whole of our life as a somewhat longer Advent, a time of waiting for that definitive moment when we will at last find ourselves with God forever. The Christian knows that he has to live this advent beside Our Lady every day of his life if he wants to be certain of attaining the only thing in the whole of his existence that is really important—finding Christ in his life, and afterwards being with Him in eternity. There is no better way of preparing for Christmas, which is now so close, than by keeping Mary company, getting to know her and deepening our love and trust in her. Mary imparts a great joy to our souls, because when we turn to her she leads us to Christ. “

*~from In Conversation with God,  
Daily Meditations, Volume One:  
Advent and Christmastide*

## M.Y.C. MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**December 20 Religious Education 9:45am**

**December 13 Shoebox Project Ends**

**December 20 3rd, 4th, & 5th Grade  
Reconciliation**

**December 20 Sr. Youth Social Hr. 5:00pm  
Praise & Worship at 6:30pm**

**December 20 7:00pm Adoration  
of the Blessed Sacrament**

*December 24 Christmas Eve*

*Youth Mass*



### Little Ones in Christ

Grades Pre K—Grade 2

Joanna Murphree at 473-1444.

### Junior Youth (Grades 3-6)

Every 2nd Sunday from 5-7pm

Contact Isabel at 753-9820.

### Senior Youth (Grades 7-12)

1st & 3rd Wednesdays—Sr. Youth Meetings  
& Every 3rd Sunday—Social Night

**Food, Fun, and Faith!**

Contact Peter Boyle 613-5435



“ And how does this  
happen to me, that the  
**Mother of my  
Lord**  
should  
come  
to me?”



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"We are called to be instruments of God  
our Father, so that our planet might be  
what he desired when he created it..."



Pope Francis

The effort is simple, but the results  
are deeply rewarding.

If you are interested in working on recycling  
in our Parish, please contact Marguerite Gorman:  
205-746-4912 or [Margog55@gmail.com](mailto:Margog55@gmail.com)

*Thank  
you*

**Many. many  
thanks** to all the  
volunteers and to the  
Hospitality committee  
members that made the Parish Christ-  
mas Dinner such a success! Thanks also  
to all who came to celebrate with us.  
Merry Christmas and God Bless!

Hugs and kisses to you all!

**Karen Hand & Gloria Raynor**

Knights of Columbus  
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