



4609 Martin Street South, Cropwell, AL 35054
Office: 205-525-5161 **Fax: 205-525-5162**
www.ollpellcity.com **parish@ollpellcity.com**

Rev. Michael F. Sexton, Pastor

Deacon Terrence Rumore

Deacon Serge Brazzotto

Deacon E. Lee Robinson

Director of Religious Education
Music Director
Parish Secretary

Tammy Bunt
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, March 25, 2017
Mass 5:00 pm*

*Sunday, March 26, 2017
Masses 8:30 am & 11:15 am*

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 26, 2017

*The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not want.*



—Psalm 23:1



Mass Intentions

March 27– April 2



Monday: Claudia Tombrello *by Rita & Terry Rumore*
Tuesday: Ron Stasko *by KOC 12270 †*
Wednesday: Jeanie Reid *by the Morteks*
Thursday: Mary Lynn & Don Williams *by the Rumores*
Friday: Dcn. Greg Thompson *by Rita & Terry Rumore*
Saturday: Tommy Zopfi *by Karen & Bob Hand †*
Sunday: Lillie Rumore *by Rita & Terry Rumore*

Please pray for the ill and shut-ins:

Paul Boyle, Crystal Welford, Cecil Rodgers, Jacky Johnson, , Jim Hopper, Anne & Cary Forister, Rita Martens, Jeanie Reid, Richard & Ann Marston, Gail Layton.

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: sharonstice46@gmail.com.

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

Weekly Readings ~ March 27–April 2

Monday: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30
Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47
Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53
Sunday: Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

Today's Readings



First Reading — As the prophet Samuel anointed David with oil, the spirit of the LORD rushed upon David and remained with him from that day forward. (1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a)

Psalm — The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. (Psalm 23)

Second Reading — You who were once darkness are now light in the Lord. Live as children of light. (Ephesians 5:8-14)

Gospel — The man who was blind from birth proclaimed: The one called Jesus made clay with his saliva, anointed my eyes with it, and told me to wash. When I washed, I was able to see! (John 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38])

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

Pastor's Message

What happens when no one is able to see? When darkness is pervasive. Where shall we find wisdom and insight?

There is a certain irony in the First Reading today from the Book of Samuel. Jesse, the father of eight sons, presented seven of them to the prophet Samuel to see which of them would make a good king. David, the youngest son was out in the fields tending the sheep. Jesse didn't bother to call him in and have him meet Samuel.

Jesse, when asked if there was another son, other than the seven already present, said: "There is still the youngest, who is tending the sheep". Reading between the lines, we can hear him say: But you don't want him. He is too young; he is immature!

When David was finally brought in to meet Samuel, the Lord told Samuel to anoint him, "for this is the one". God sees what we do not see.

In the Gospel story from John's Gospel, Ch. 9:1-41, not only is the young man blind but everyone seems to be blind.

The Disciples are still thinking in old categories. They think that physical handicap must be a result of family or personal sin. "Whose sin is this?" they ask.

The Pharisees too seem blind theologically. Sinners are not cured, they thought, and certainly not on the Sabbath.

The people in the crowd fail to recognize the man who previously was blind but now sees. "Isn't this the fellow who used to sit and beg?" They asked and they did not know.

The parents of the young man who was cured, also lacked vision. Membership in the Synagogue was more important than witnessing to Christ.

There is a curious lack of vision and insight in all these events. Paul in the Second Reading is quite blunt. He says to the Ephesians: "You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord".

An old Sufi wisdom saying has this: "We see things as we are not as they are".

What we must overcome is the fear of making new beginnings, of growing in faith and awareness. The fear of growing beyond the narrow perspectives of the world to the limitless expanse of the Gospel. Then again, New vision brings new pain (as it did for the man who was healed of his blindness).

Small Faith Sharing Groups: We continue to hear positive things about the Small Groups meeting for Lent. Thanks to all for your staying with your group and a big thanks to those who lead a group or host a group!

Catholic Relief Services: Special collection today is for the support of this world-wide service, sponsored by the American Bishops. A powerful witness to the Gospel and recognized everywhere as a first class relief agency.

Peace and Blessings,
Fr. Sexton

March 26 ~ April 2

Sunday-March 26

Mass 8:30 am & 11:15 am

*NO PSR-Spring Break

Monday-March 27

Communion Service 9:00 am

*Legion of Mary

*Bridge

Tuesday-March 28

Communion Service 9:00 am

Wednesday-March 29

Mass 7:00 pm

Thursday-March 30

Communion Service 9:00 am

Friday-March 31

Mass 9 am

*Fish Fry 5-6:30 pm

*Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm

Saturday-April 1

Mass 5:00 pm

*Reconciliation 3:30-5:00 pm

Sunday-April 2

Mass 8:30 am & 11:15 am

*PSR 9:45 am

*PSR Confessions

*Youth Mass 11:15 am

John Carroll Catholic High School 13th Annual Carrollights Celebration April 22nd.

Parents, Alumni and Friends are welcome to join in the Celebration of John Carroll Catholic High School **Saturday, April 22, at 6 pm, at the Our Lady of Valley Social Hall.**

Tickets are \$60.00 per person and include dinner, live and silent auction along with music from Goodfellas.

For more information please visit our web site at www.carrollights.org or contact Michelle Scholtz, 2017 Chair at carrollights2017@gmail.com

FINANCE NEWS
July 2015-June 2016

Last week

	Actual	Budget
*Offertory:	\$ 7152.25	\$ 5653.85

Year-to-date

*Offertory:	\$ 246,063.61	\$ 214,846.30
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*Please note the actual total includes Burse Club, Building Fund & Special Collections which are not part of the general operating budget.



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 – 50 cans

Our Lady of the Lake
KOC Council 12270

Lenten Fish Fries



5:00 to 6:30 p.m.
Each Friday of Lent

2-piece dinner (2 sides) \$8.00
1-piece dinner (2 sides) \$6.00
Child's plate (cheese pizza, 1 side) \$3.00

Parish Council

Chair: Sonia Dale:
wmksdale2000@gmail.com

Vice Chair: Mark McRae:
mmcrae237@yahoo.com

Secretary: Karen Hand
wmkhand@yahoo.com

Beth Brouillette: beth_brouillette@yahoo.com

Sonya Lewis: sonyalewis285@gmail.com

Joanna Murphree: Joannam1222@aol.com

Gloria Raynor: grodgers2010@gmail.com

Carl Rochford: rochfordc@bellsouth.net

Joe Stanley: rolyde1@aol.com

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

Community Holy Week Service

Donations Needed



Our Lady of the Lake will be responsible for providing **250 sandwiches** for the Community Holy Week Services to be held at Pell City United Methodist Church on **Wednesday, April 12th.**

If you are able to **donate a loaf of white and/or wheat bread (regular size bread only please)**, you may bring it to the Church kitchen on Tuesday, April 11.

Volunteers are also needed to prepare the sandwiches on Wednesday morning, April 12th. We must deliver the sandwiches to the church by 10:30 am on the 12th.

Thanks to Karen Hand for leading this project!
For additional info please contact Karen:
205.405.1049.



Scholarship Award

The Knights of Columbus are now accepting applications for their annual K of C Scholarship awards of **\$1000 and \$500** to be given On senior Sunday, May 21st.

Applications can be obtained by email from Jay Willi at jwilli@coosahs.net.

The deadline for receipt of the applications is May 6th.



Saints and Special Observances

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Lent

Friday: Abstinence

Saturday: First Saturday



**I
came
so that those who
do not see might see**

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Swieconka*

**Polish Easter Basket
Blessing**

Cathedral of St. Paul

Holy Saturday, April 15

9:00am

All are welcome!

Swieconka (sh-vee-en-soon-kah) is one of the most enduring and beloved Polish traditions. Baskets containing a sampling of Easter foods are brought to church to be blessed on Holy Saturday.

The basket is traditionally lined with a white linen or lace napkin and decorated with sprigs of boxwood (*bukspan*), the typical Easter evergreen. This food is shared on Easter morning in a ritual breaking of the fast.

Assignments—March 29— April 2

WEDNESDAY 3/29/2017
7:00 PM

Altar Servers
Lector Bernie Funderburg

FRIDAY 3/31/2017
7:00 PM **Stations of the Cross**

Altar Servers Sawyer Stice, Paul Boyle, Katie Boyle

SATURDAY MASS 4/1/2017
5:00 PM

Altar Servers John Stice, Sawyer Stice
Greeters Susan Moseley, Kathy Shivers
Lectors Allen Ross, Phyllis Ross
Ministers Deacon, Susan Moseley, Karen Hand
Ushers Bob Hand, Karen Hand, Sam Marston

SUNDAY MASS 4/2/2017
8:30 AM

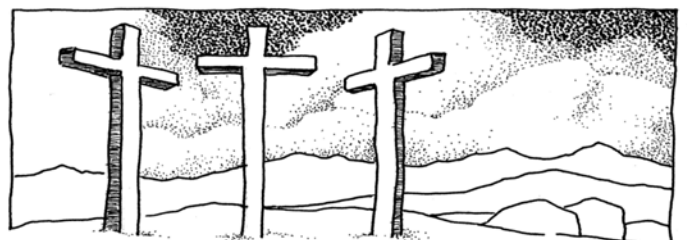
Altar Servers
Greeters Rosemary Mateer/Jimillia, Aly/Wendy Struzik
Lectors Carey Monistere, Anna Emerick
Ministers Deacon, Michael & Teri Gagliano, Carly Gagliano, Ronni Gagliano
Ushers Lance Stella, Laura Headley, Tommie Johnson, Paul Emerick

11:15 PM

Altar Servers
Greeters Youth
Lectors Youth
Ministers Deacon, Youth
Ushers Don Frederick, Chris Gallegly, Youth

If you cannot keep your assignment

PLEASE find a substitute.



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I am the light of the World, says the Lord;
whoever follows me
will have the light of life.

JN 8:12

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M.Y.C.

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR**

March 26 ****NO PSR ** SPRING BREAK****

April 2 PSR (Religious Ed) at 9:45am

Lenten Confessions

April 8 Confirmation Retreat



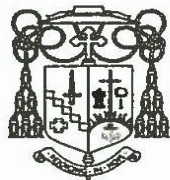
Little Ones in Christ Grades Pre K—Grade 2

Contact Joanna Murphree (205) 473-1444.

Junior Youth Grades 3—Grade 6 Contact Jordan Murphree (205) 863-5787

Senior Youth Grades 7-12 Contact Peter Boyle (205) 613-5435

1st & 3rd Wednesdays— Sr. Youth Meetings & Every 3rd Sunday—Social Night
Food, Fun, and Faith!



Diocese of Birmingham in Alabama

Post Office Box 12047
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2121 Third Avenue North
Birmingham, Alabama 35203
Telephone: 205-838-8322
Fax: 205-836-1910

Office of the Bishop

March 13, 2017

Help Jesus in disguise

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock." —Rev 3:20

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our diocese will be taking up The Catholic Relief Services Collection (CRSC) the weekend of **March 25 & 26, 2017**. By participating in this collection, you are responding to **Jesus in disguise** in some of the most marginalized communities in our world. The CRSC provides services for immigrants, humanitarian aid in the wake of natural disasters, refuge for the displaced, and advocacy for peace and justice around the world. Let us join together in this collection to support those suffering and on the margins of society.

For example, in Niger, changes in climate in western Africa are adversely affecting poor and rural farmers. No matter how hard these farmers work, droughts are shortening the rainy season, leaving harvests too small to support families and communities. Your support of the CRSC is helping connect businesses that provide drought-resistant seeds to these communities. These new relationships are providing hope to these communities for a sustainable future.

Your support of this collection makes a difference for so many around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection this year. If you want to learn more about the collection and the people who benefit, please visit www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

Support the collection and answer the knock of **Jesus in disguise**.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. Baker, S.T.D.
Bishop of Birmingham in Alabama

RJB/dm

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