



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

Deacon Terrence Rumore

Deacon Serge Brazzolotto

Deacon E. Lee Robinson

Director of Religious Education
Music Director
Parish Secretary

Sonya Lewis
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.-11:00 a.m.

HOLY HOUR OF ADORATION:

Third Sunday of every month at 7:00 p.m.
Exposición del Santísimo el segundo Miércoles
de cada mes @ 7:30 p.m.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

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

Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church

Saturday, December 2, 2017

Mass 9:00 am & 5:00 pm

Sunday, December 3, 2017

Masses 8:30 am & 11:15 am

First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2017



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

— Mark 13:33



Mass Intentions

December 4 – December 10



Monday: JW & Frances Hand by Karen & Bob Hand †

Tuesday: Bill Estock by the Brazzolottos †

Wednesday: Parishioners by Betty Huetteman/Yolie Roy

Thursday: Lynn & Doris Wilkins by Susan Moseley †

Friday: Special Intentions

Saturday: Trudi & Andy McClay by the BZielinskis †

Sunday: Rodney & Beth Martin by the D'Amicos

****Sunday's Mass Intentions are offered
at the 11:15 am Mass****

Please pray for the ill and shut-ins:

*Paul Boyle, Crystal Welford, Cecil Rodgers,
Jacky Johnson, Rita Martens, Gail Layton,
Nicki Brasfield, Rene Bentel, Carolyn 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: 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 ~ Dec. 4—Dec. 10

Monday: Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-14; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

Today's Readings



First Reading — We are the clay and you, O LORD, are the potter: we are the work of your hands. (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; by God you were called to fellowship with the Son. (1 Corinthians 1:3-9)

Gospel — Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. (Mark 13:33-37)

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.

Welcome to Advent.

A story that comes to us from Eastern mysticism helps us capture the spirit of the Advent season. A monk asked his Abbot: "What has God's wisdom taught you? Did you become divine?" He answered: "Not at all". The Monk continued: "Did you become a saint?" He answered: "Not at all, as you can clearly see". The Monk persisted: "What then, O Abbot?" He answered: "I became awake!"

The season of Advent opens today with an alert! "Be constantly on the watch". Stay awake! Be on guard! But why, we ask. So that we might recognize God's visitation in our lives—today, tomorrow and at the end of life, at the end of the world.

This alert is not intended to provoke anxiety or fear or panic. It is a clarion call to live life with purpose, with zest, with attentiveness. We are to be attuned to the Spirit.

Advent is a season of watchful waiting. Our culture induces drowsiness and escapism. Another sale, another T.V. show, another diversion. In Advent we should, in the words of Carl Jung, "Choose meaning over existence".

We wait like Mark's community in the Gospel Reading for the coming of the Son of Man. As we begin another Advent, it is important to remember that Christ appears suddenly in our life every day. Like the characters of Mark's Gospel we can easily miss his arrival.

If Mark were writing today, he would perhaps use other symbols for that spirit of distraction. "Be watchful! Be alert! May he not find you obsessing over trivia, lusting after images on the internet, preoccupied with your phone or indulging in fear or greed".

May we use these weeks before Christmas to put away our distractions and put our faith in Christ anew.

The First Reading today that opens the Advent season (Isaiah 63, 16-17; 64:2-7) is a jewel of the Bible. It expresses the cry of the heart. The felt absence of God. The emptiness. The silence of God. "Come, why do you let us wander from our ways. Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down—with the mountains quaking before you. Would that you might find us doing right; that we were mindful of you in our ways".

Here is the great Biblical insight: "Our life is in you, O God. If you are not here, how can we be?" Come, Lord Jesus, Come!

Annual Parish Dinner: Sunday, December 10th at 4:00 p.m. at Celebrations. Reserve this date for you and your family, young and old. A foretaste of Christmas joy. Karen Hand would love to hear from you if you would like to volunteer to bring a salad or dessert or a vegetable. Karen needs volunteers too to set up the tables and clean up afterwards. Don't leave it to a few. Sign up today in the Parish foyers.

Peace and Blessings,

Fr. Sexton

Sunday-December 3

Mass 8:30 am & 11:15 am

1st Sunday of Advent

*RE 9:45-11:00 am

*Reconciliation—grades 3,4,5

*Youth Mass 11:15 am



Monday-December 4

Mass 9:00 am

*Legion of Mary

*Bridge

Tuesday-December 5

Mass 9:00 am

*RCIA 7:00 pm

Wednesday-December 6

Mass 7:00 pm

Thursday-December 7

Mass 9:00 am

Friday-December 8

Mass 9:00 am & 7:00 pm

Immaculate Conception



Saturday-December 9

Mass 9:00 am

*Reconciliation 3:30-5:00 pm

Sunday-December 10

Mass 8:30 am & 11:15 am

2nd Sunday of Advent

*RE 9:45-11:00 am

*Reconciliation—grades 6,7,8

*Jr. Youth 12:30-2:30p

*Parish Christmas Dinner 4-6p Celebrations



Weekly Offertory

July 2017 — June 2018

	Actual*	Needed
Last Week	\$4036.82	\$5702.00
Year to Date	\$119,032.95	\$125,444.00

*Please note the actual total includes Seminarian Fund, 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



Christmas Giving Tree

The Christmas Giving Trees are up and filled with tags in both foyers. We will be helping 24 families this year, with a total of 61 children. As you know the need is especially great again this year. Please be as generous as you can.

This is how you can help:

Take a tag or two from the trees.

Buy the gift listed on the tag.

Return the unwrapped gift (with the tag attached to the gift) back under one of the trees.

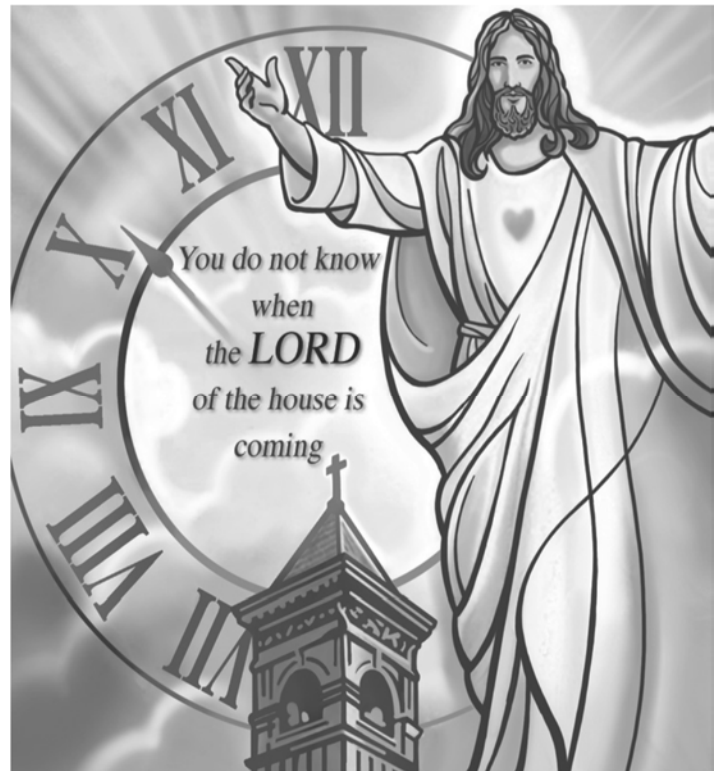
ALL GIFTS MUST BE RETURNED NO LATER THAN Sunday, DECEMBER 10TH.

Gifts will be distributed to the families on Sunday, December 17th.

Except for bicycles, no request should cost more than \$25-30. For those on a smaller budget, there are \$10 donation tags on the tree. **PLEASE, IF YOU TAKE A TAG, RETURN THE GIFT TO THE TREES. Someone is counting on you!** Also note that your gift is one of several on the tree for each child.

For more info, please call Brenda Rochford, 423-242-5029 or Sharon Stice, 205-613-1053.

May the coming of the Christ Child fill your hearts with joy!



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The 2018 Offertory envelopes are ready for pickup in the Parish Hall.

Please pick these as soon as possible.

Thank you!

305	JAN 7 2018	305														
"GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER." 2 Cor. 9:7 PLEASE USE THIS CHECKER ON SUNDAY MORNING BEFORE IT BEGINS PLEASE MAIL YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE PARISH																
Our Lady of the Lake Church PELL CITY, ALABAMA		SACRIFICIAL OFFERTORY GIFT														
Name _____		<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 20px;">\$</td><td style="width: 100px;">_____</td></tr> <tr><td>\$25.00</td><td>_____</td></tr> <tr><td>\$20.00</td><td>_____</td></tr> <tr><td>\$15.00</td><td>_____</td></tr> <tr><td>\$10.00</td><td>_____</td></tr> <tr><td>\$ 5.00</td><td>_____</td></tr> <tr><td>\$</td><td>_____</td></tr> </table>	\$	_____	\$25.00	_____	\$20.00	_____	\$15.00	_____	\$10.00	_____	\$ 5.00	_____	\$	_____
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Advent Wreath Candle Lighters



First Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 2nd

5 pm Mass - [Kern Family](#)

Sunday, December 3rd

8:30 am Mass - [Allor Family](#)

11:15 am Mass - [Lewis Family](#)

Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 9th

5 pm Mass - [Hollis Family](#)

Sunday, December 10th

8:30 am Mass - [Dale Family](#)

11:15 am Mass - [Raynor Family](#)

Third Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 16th

5 pm Mass - [Frost Family](#)

Sunday, December 17th

8:30 am Mass - [Perry Family](#)

11:15 am Mass - [Luter Family](#)

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 23rd

5 pm Mass - [Boyle Family](#)

Sunday, December 24th

8:30 am Mass - [Falkner Family](#)

11:15 am Mass - [Jacks Family](#)

Assignments—Dec. 6 ~ Dec. 10

WEDNESDAY

12/6/2017

7:00 PM

Altar Servers *
Lectors Terri Brown

FRIDAY

12/8/2017

9:00 AM

Immaculate Conception

Lectors *
Ministers *

7:00 PM

Altar Servers Amelia Reese, Jimillia Sayles
Greeters Allen/Phyllis Ross, Dennis/Sandy Veigl
Lectors Sonia Dale, Sara Reese
Ministers Deacon, Larry Reese, Parma Boyle,
Jennifer Sellers, Ronnie Sellers
Ushers Michael Gagliano, Herb Kuntz, Lance
Stella, Clayton Martin

SATURDAY MASS

12/9/2017

5:00 PM

2nd Sunday of Advent

Altar Servers Tom Graffo, James Raynor
Greeters Bill/Loretta Frost, Tammy McRae
Lectors Kathy Bryant, Martha Hayes
Ministers Deacon, Jim Dale, Sonia Dale
Ushers Karen Hand, Bob Hand, Bob Nicholas,
Clayton Martin

SUNDAY MASS

12/10/2017

8:30 AM

2nd Sunday of Advent

Altar Servers Andrew Thomaston, Will Thomaston,
Brennan Cardenas, Amy Cardenas
Greeters Amelia Reese, Alexis Allor
Lectors Gail Perry, Bart Perry
Ministers Deacon, Anna Emerick, Janice Stella,
Chere Lowery, Brenda Rochford
Ushers Michael Gagliano, Dennis Veigl, Jim
Gorman, Tommie Ann Johnson

11:15 PM

Altar Servers Will Pittman, John Himmler, Teresa Ray
Greeters Grace Troncalli, Aly/Wendy Struzik
Lectors Jennifer Sellers, Ronnie Sellers
Ministers Deacon, Ken Otto, Edie Otto, Maria
Jimenez, Joe Hoffert
Ushers Don Frederick, Ron Markevich, Brian
Young, John Smith



Little Ones in Christ

Grades Pre K—Grade 2

Contact Joanna Murphree (205) 473-1444

2nd Sunday 12:30—2:30pm

Junior Youth

Grades 3— Grade 6

Contact Jordan Murphree (205) 863-5787

2nd Sunday 12:30—2:30pm

Senior Youth

Grades 7-12

Contact Carly Gagliano (205)837-8888

1st and 3rd Sunday 5:30—8:00pm

Food, Fun, and Faith!



Nursery

The nursery is in need of volunteers. We are required to have two qualified adults present when the nursery is opened. A qualified adult is at least 21, had youth protection class, and criminal background check. Please consider volunteering in the nursery so we can provide childcare during Mass.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
Religious Education

Dec. 3—RE 9:45—11:15am
3rd, 4th, 5th Grade Reconciliation
Sr. Youth 5:30—8:00pm

Dec. 10—RE 9:45—11:15am
6th, 7th, 8th Grade Reconciliation

Dec. 14—Pell City Christmas
parade 7:00pm

Dec. 17—RE 9:45—11:15am
High School Reconciliation
Sr. Youth

Dec. 24—No RE
Youth Mass 4:30pm
Carols start at 4:00

Parent Meeting

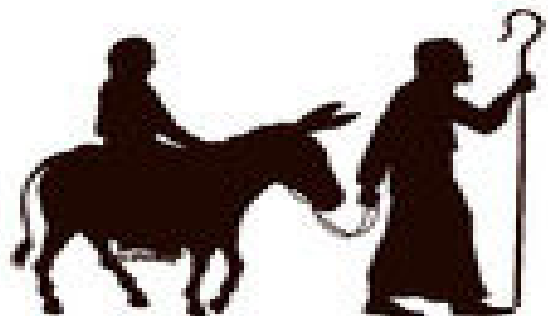
Jan. 7—First Reconciliation meeting
9:45am in the parish hall

Jan. 14—Confirmation (8th & 9th grade)
meeting 9:45am in the parish hall

Adult Education

9:45 in the parish hall

No Adult Education scheduled!





Saints and Special Observances

Sunday: First Sunday of Advent
Monday: St. John Damascene
Wednesday: St. Nicholas
Thursday: St. Ambrose;
 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
Friday: Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Saturday: St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin



Chair: Sonia Dale:
 wmksdale2000@gmail.com

Vice Chair: Mark McRae:
 mmcrae237@yahoo.com

Secretary: Karen Hand
 wmkhand@yahoo.com

Matthew Allor: mjalor.1969@gmail.com

Marguerite Gorman: margog55@gmail.com

Johnny Kay: kayjohnny@yahoo.com

Joanna Murphree: Joannam1222@aol.com

Bart Perry: brpgep07@yahoo.com

Jennifer Rosato: jrosato1972@gmail.com

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

A Note from Fr. Sexton:

The Synod of Bishops will convene in Rome in October, 2018 to discuss the topic: "Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment". This will be the first Synod of Bishops to focus on youth.

In preparation for the Synod, **Pope Francis has invited young people (ages 16-29)** to tell him about their hopes and struggles and even their criticisms. For this purpose a special survey has been prepared. Catechists, Youth Ministers and the young people themselves are invited to participate in the survey by visiting the Diocesan website: www.bhmdiocese.org to find the link to the survey and answer the questions.

We encourage you to participate in this important survey in preparation for the Synod.

Thanks.

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