



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

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 26, 2015

Mass 5:00 pm

Sunday, December 27, 2015

Masses 8:30 am & 11:15 am



*The Holy Family
of Jesus, Mary,
and Joseph
December 27, 2015*

*Welcoming a Year
of God's Mercy*



Mass Intentions

Dec. 28– Jan. 3



Monday: Doris & Lynn Wilkins *by Susan Moseley* †
Tuesday: Jean Hall *by Deacon Terry & Rita Rumore* †
Wednesday: Bill Estock *by Deacon Terry & Rita Rumore* †
Thursday: New Year's Eve
Friday: New Year's Day
Saturday: Bill Estock *by the Brazzolottos* †
Sunday: Roger Fredrickson *by the Brazzolottos* †

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

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 28– January 3

Monday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps
124:2-5, 7b-8;
Mt 2:13-18

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3,
5b-6; Lk 2:22-35

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-
10; Lk 2:36-40

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-
2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18

Friday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3,
5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7;
Lk 2:16-21

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-
4; Jn 1:19-28

Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-
8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-
6; Mt 2:1-12

Today's Readings



First Reading — Hannah gives her son
Samuel back to the LORD, leaving him in the temple
at Shiloh: "As long as he lives, he shall be dedicated
to the LORD". (1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28) *or* (Sirach
3:2-6, 12-14)

Psalm — Blessed are they who dwell in your house,
O Lord. (Psalm 84) *or* (Psalm 128)

Second Reading — We are children of God when
we believe in the name of God's Son, Jesus Christ,
and love one another just as he commanded us. (1
Jn 3:1-2, 21-24) *or* (Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17])

Gospel — Joseph and Mary find the lost Jesus in
the temple in the midst of the teachers, listening to
them and asking questions. (Luke 2:41-52)

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission
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Pastor's Message

We continue the celebration of Christmas with a focus on the family. One of the enduring wonders of Christmas is that God chose to be born into a human family. He put his seal upon family life. We are reminded this Sunday that every family is special. Every family is holy in its own way.

St John Chrysostom (died in 407 A.D.) wrote this: "The Christian home is the Church in miniature. If all places of worship should be destroyed, or their use forbidden, the family would still remain the place where God would be remembered and worshipped".

Christmas places God's stamp on family life. It is the locus of nurture and life, acceptance and values. It is there that we are loved and learn to love. It is there too that we learn that all life is relational. We learn to trust and to relate to one another in mutual trust.

As the recent Church Synod on the Family pointed out, family life today is under severe stress in a world of changing cultures and the eclipse of Gospel values. The family is crucial to the life of the Church and the spread of the Gospel.

We must be careful too not to romanticize the family or think of some idealized version of family life. Each family is unique and each family faces its own challenges. Sometimes we place expectations on the family that are too high—more freight than the traffic can bear.

The Scripture readings for this Feast of the Holy Family reflect timeless values and insights that can support family life even today.

In the first reading (1 Samuel 20-22, 24-28) Samuel's parents are faithful to their religious obligations and offer the required sacrifice on the birth of their son. Hannah gives thanks for the gift of her child and dedicates him to God.

The second reading (1 John 3:1-2, 21-24) reminds us that there is another family to which we belong, namely the family of faith. Through faith and baptism we are indeed children of God. "We are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed".

The Gospel reading from Luke recalls a very human incident in the life of Christ. At the age of twelve on a visit to the temple he is separated from his family by an accident. The fear expressed by Mary and Joseph captures the fear of every parent. "Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety". Misunderstandings happen in every family. May your family be blessed this Christmas time.

~~~~~  
**Jubilee Year of Mercy:** Our Parish is planning a special event during Lent that will center on small groups meeting once a week for six weeks to reflect on the role of mercy and forgiveness in our lives. This will take the place of the Parish Mission this year. More information in the coming weeks. See also information on small groups in this copy of the bulletin.

Peace and Blessings,

*Fr. Sexton*

## *Calendar of Events Dec. 27- Jan. 3*

### **Sunday-Dec. 27**

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

**Feast of the Holy Family**

\*No RE

\*Blessing of Babies

### **Monday-Dec. 28**

**Masses 9 am**

\*Bridge

\*Legion of Mary

### **Tuesday-Dec. 29**

**Mass 9 am & 7 pm**

\*NO RCIA

### **Wednesday-Dec. 30**

**Mass 7 pm**

EVE OF THE SOLEMNITY OF  
MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

NEW YEAR'S EVE

### **Thursday-Dec. 31**

**Mass 5 pm**

SOLEMNITY OF  
MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

NEW YEAR'S DAY

### **Friday-Jan. 1**

**Mass 9 am**

**Holy Day**

\*First Friday Adoration 9:30-12:30

### **Saturday-Jan. 2**

**Mass 5 pm**

\*Reconciliation 3:30-5:00 pm

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

### **Sunday-Jan. 3**

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

\*No RE

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

**Last week**

|                    |                   |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                    | <b>Actual</b>     | <b>Budget</b>     |
| <b>*Offertory:</b> | <b>\$ pending</b> | <b>\$ 5770.00</b> |

**Year-to-date**

|                    |                      |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>*Offertory:</b> | <b>\$ 126,266.22</b> | <b>\$ 126,940.00</b> |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|

The child  
grew to maturity



and was  
filled with wisdom



## *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 – cans**

## *Saints and Special Observances*

- Sunday:** The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
- Monday:** The Holy Innocents
- Tuesday:** Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; St. Thomas Becket
- Wednesday:** Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
- Thursday:** Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; St. Sylvester I; New Year's Eve
- Friday:** The Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; Mary, the Holy Mother of God; World Day of Prayer for Peace; First Friday; New Year's Day
- Saturday:** Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen; First Saturday



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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



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



## Church Directories

Directories have arrived and are in the hall & labeled with the family name. Only those that had their photo taken will receive a directory, as was mentioned when the photos were taken.

**Thank you!**

### WEDNESDAY MASS 12/30/2015 9:00 AM

Altar Servers \*

Lectors Bernie Funderburg

### THURSDAY MASS 12/31/2015 5:00 PM Vigil Mass

Altar Servers \*

Greeters Parma Boyle, Shirley Skeivelas

Lectors \*

Ministers \*

Ushers \*

**MARY MOTHER OF GOD**

### FRIDAY 1/1/2016 9:00 AM Holy Day

Altar Servers \*

Greeters Parma Boyle, Shirley Skeivelas

Lectors Mary Adams, Sonia Dale

Ministers Deacon, Allen Ross, Phyllis Ross

Ushers \*

## Assignment List Dec. 30 Jan. 3

### SATURDAY MASS 1/2/2016 5:00 pm

Altar Servers KOC

Greeters \*

Lectors Sonia Dale, Marguerite Gorman

Ministers Deacon, Gloria Albright, Parma Boyle

Ushers Cecil Rodgers, Jim Dale, Jim Gorman, Bob Nicholas

### SUNDAY MASS 1/3/2016 8:30 AM

Altar Servers \*

Greeters \*

Lectors Anna Emerick, Joe Stanley

Ministers Deacon, Michael Gagliano, Teri Gagliano, Carly Gagliano, Ronni Gagliano

Ushers Michael Gagliano, Herb Kuntz, Joaquina Reyes, Joe Yester

### 11:15 AM ? Youth Mass

Altar Servers \*

Greeters \*

Lectors \*

Ministers Deacon, \*

Ushers Don Frederick, Chris Gallegly

\* information was not available

**If you cannot keep your assignment**

**PLEASE find a substitute.**



**Radiating HIS Love**  
*by learning and living our Catholic Faith.*

## FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH

...Today our gaze on the Holy Family lets us also be drawn into the simplicity of the life they led in Nazareth. It is an example that does our families great good, helping them increasingly to become communities of love and reconciliation, in which tenderness, mutual help, and mutual forgiveness is experienced. Let us remember the three key words for living in peace and joy in the family: "may I", "thank you" and "sorry". In our family, when we are not intrusive and ask "may I", in our family when we are not selfish and learn to say "thank you", and when in a family one realizes he has done something wrong and knows how to say "sorry", in that family there is peace and joy. Let us remember these three words. Can we repeat them all together: may I, thank you, sorry. (Everyone: may I, thank you, sorry!) I would also like to encourage families to become aware of the importance they have in the Church and in society. The proclamation of the Gospel, in fact, first passes through the family to reach the various spheres of daily life.



Let us fervently call upon Mary Most Holy, the Mother of Jesus and our Mother, and St Joseph her spouse. Let us ask them to enlighten, comfort and guide every family in the world, so that they may fulfil with dignity and peace the mission which God has entrusted to them.

### **M.Y.C. MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**December 27 NO Religious Education**

*Friday, January 1st*

*9:00am Mass*

*Solemnity of*

*Mary, the Mother of God*

*(Holy Day of Obligation)*

*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*

*(following Mass until 12:30pm)*

There is no better way to start the New Year  
than to spend time with the Lord!

**January 3 NO Religious Education**

**POPE FRANCIS  
ANGELUS**

*Saint Peter's Square  
Sunday, 29 December 2013*



#### **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

## Sign- Up Form for Small Group Sharing

Lent: The Holy Year of Mercy 2016

Once a week (February 10 -- March 27)

There is no Lenten Mission scheduled this Lent. This Sharing is meant to take the place of the Mission.

This is an opportunity to prepare to celebrate your best Easter ever!

You may select a time and perhaps the place you would like to meet with 5 – 8 fellow parishioners.

You may sign up as an individual or group or even as a family.

We will be using Pope Francis' Book, "THE HOLY YEAR OF MERCY".

Each member of the group will need their own book in order to study and prepare for the weekly meetings. There is a place for personal answers and reflection as well. The cost to you of each book will be \$3.00, with the parish making up the difference. Do not let the cost of the book keep you or your family from participating. If the cost is too much of a burden, please let us know.

### Your part:

1. Read the short lesson before the meeting and write your answers in your book.
2. Be on time for every meeting and feel free to leave at the agreed upon time. (1 ½ to 2 hours)
3. Listen attentively and respect each other's ideas.
4. What is shared in the group will remain confidential.
5. Stay committed to the group.

### Parish part:

1. Furnish book at the reduced cost of \$3.00 to you.
2. Provide a facilitator
3. Provide a space for the meeting if necessary.

### God's part:

Bless our efforts with wisdom, insight and grace to see Him in our daily lives.

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