



4609 Martin Street South, Cropwell, AL 35054
Office: 205-525-5161 **Fax: 205-525-5162**
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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

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 10, 2016

Mass 5:00 pm

Sunday, December 11, 2016

Masses 8:30 am & 11:15 am

Third Sunday of Advent

December 11, 2016

*Those whom the LORD has
ransomed will return
and enter Zion singing, crowned
with everlasting joy.*



— Isaiah 35:10a



Mass Intentions

December 12– December 18



Monday: Frances Hand by Bob & Karen Hand †

Tuesday: Michael Lombardo by the Rumores

Wednesday: Fredrica Hofert by Paul & Parma Boyle †

Thursday: Bettye Carrico by Terry & Rita Rumore

Friday: Melinda McNamee by Terry & Rita Rumore

Saturday: Trudi & Andy McClay by the Zielinskis †

Sunday: Alice Reid by Jeanie Reid †

Please pray for the ill and shut-ins:

*Paul Boyle, Crystal Welford, Cecil
Rodgers, Jacky Johnson, Kitty Gordon,
Jim Hopper, Anne & Cary Forister,
Rita Martens, 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: 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 ~ Dec. 12—Dec. 18

Monday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv
11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab;
Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk
1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47,
or any readings from
the Common of the
Blessed Virgin Mary,
nos. 707-712

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps
34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23;
Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Is 45: 6b-8, 18, 21b-25;
Ps 85:9ab, 10-14;
Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday: Is 54:1-10; Ps 30:2, 4-
6, 11-12a, 13b;
Lk 7:24-30

Friday: Is 56:1-3a, 6-8; Ps 67:2-
3, 5, 7-8; Jn 5:33-36

Saturday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-
4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

Sunday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6;
Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

Today's Readings



First Reading — The barren deserts will rejoice
and flower. Tired bodies will receive strength.
Aching hearts will be made glad. (Isaiah 35:1-
6a, 10)

Psalm — Lord, come and save us. (Psalm 146)

Second Reading — Be patient, for the coming
of the Lord is as sure as the rain. (James 5:7-
10)

Gospel — Tell of what you hear and see: The
blind regain their vision, the crippled their move-
ment, the deaf their hearing. (Matthew 11:2-11)

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

The disciples of John the Baptist in today's Gospel selection (Mt. 11:2-11) are sent to Jesus to ask him: "Are you he who is to come or should we look for another?". It is the great question for all of us who believe.

John the Baptist was in prison in this scene. He was put there at the instigation of King Herod. He is in the darkness of the dungeon but also in the darkness of doubt. Did I make a mistake? Is this where it ends? Why did I believe? The dark night of doubt has fallen on John the Baptist.

Fashioned by God in the desert, John had his own expectations of God. He thought the Messiah would be different. He expected strong judgement. A little fire and brimstone might have helped. A stronger use of power maybe.

Surely, Jesus would work his power to release John from prison. If he is the Messiah! Or is he really the Messiah?

The answer received by John's disciples from Jesus is intriguing. "The blind see, the lame walk, the deaf hear, lepers are cleansed and the dead are raised to life. The poor have the Good News preached to them.

Jesus is not just the projection of our inner hopes and expectations. He is not just the fulfillment of our Christmas shopping list. He is not always the kind of Messiah we would like him to be. We have to be attentive to his coming.

There is a story of Rabbi Joshua Ben Levi who talked to the prophet Elijah as good Rabbis once were wont to do. "Where" Rabbi Joshua asked, "Shall I find the Messiah?". "At the gate of the city", Elijah replied. "How shall I recognize him?", Rabbi Joshua asked. Elijah replied: "He sits among the lepers". "Among the Lepers", cried Rabbi Joshua, "What is he doing there?". "He changes their bandages", Elijah replied. "He changes them one by one".

And so it is that the blind see, and the lame still walk and the hungry are fed and people are given back the gift of life by caring people and loving people, even in the midst of suffering. These are the pockets of hope that provide the surest answer to the original question: Where is God?

~~~~~  
**Parish Dinner:** A great big "Thank You" to Karen Hand and the many other volunteers who coordinated the Parish Christmas Dinner last Sunday. Thanks too to the Knights of Columbus for cooking the food; thanks to all who shared desserts and salads; thanks to the Hispanic community for the Latin foods—a special treat. It was a special experience of family spirit, reminding us of our Parish family of faith.

**Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast:** On Monday evening, December 12th at 7:00 p.m. A special festive Mass with procession, followed by a reception in the Parish hall. Come and celebrate this special feast with us. Gracias!

Peace and Blessings,  
*Fr. Sexton*

## *December 11- December 18*

### **Sunday-Dec. 11**

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

\*RE 9:45 am

\*Pro Life Rosary/English



### **Monday-Dec. 12**

**Mass 9 am & 7 pm**

\*Legion of Mary

\*Bridge

\***Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass 7pm** –  
reception to follow in the Hall

### **Tuesday-Dec. 13**

**Mass 9 am**

\*RCIA 7 pm

### **Wednesday-Dec 14**

**Mass 9:00 am**

**Advent Reconciliation Service 7 pm**

\*Happy Birthday Deacon Terry!

### **Thursday-Dec. 15**

**Mass 9 am**

\*Choir Practice 7 pm

### **Friday-Dec. 16**

**Mass 9 am**

\*Fr. Sexton Birthday Dinner 6 pm at  
Celebrations

### **Saturday-Dec. 17**

**Mass 5 pm**

\*Reconciliation 3:30-5:00 pm



### **Sunday-Dec. 18**

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

\*RE 9:45 am

\*Sr. Youth Social 5:00 pm

\*Praise & Worship 6:30 pm

\*Holy Hour 7:00 pm

\*Happy Birthday Fr. Sexton!

## **Offertory Envelopes**

**Envelopes are now available for pick up in  
the Parish Hall.**

**If you cannot find yours, please contact the office.**

**Thank you!**

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

**Last week**

|                    |                   |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                    | <b>Actual</b>     | <b>Budget</b>     |
| <b>*Offertory:</b> | <b>\$ 5679.81</b> | <b>\$ 5653.85</b> |

**Year-to-date**

|                    |                      |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>*Offertory:</b> | <b>\$ 139,901.99</b> | <b>\$ 130,038.58</b> |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|

\*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 – 81 cans**



## **Giving Tree**

**Thank you to everyone that chose an angel from the Giving Tree!**

**All gifts need to be returned unwrapped with the angel tag firmly attached by Dec. 11th.**

**If you would like to help sort the gifts, please call -**

**Sharon Stice: 205.338.0207 or  
 Brenda Rochford: 423-242-5029.**



## *Saints and Special Observances*

|                   |                               |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Sunday:</i>    | <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> |
| <i>Monday:</i>    | <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i>  |
| <i>Tuesday:</i>   | <i>St. Lucy</i>               |
| <i>Wednesday:</i> | <i>St. John of the Cross</i>  |
| <i>Friday:</i>    | <i>Las Posadas begins</i>     |



## **Pro Life Corner**

### **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.

#### **Prayer**

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.

### *Preparing for Christmas*

**Needed:** All available parishioners!

**Purpose:** Cleaning our Church for Christmas.

**When:** December 17th @ 10:00 a.m.

Please consider donating a couple hours of your time to deep-clean the Sanctuary in preparation for Christmas.

*Many hands make light work!*

## Advent Wreath Candle Lighters



### Third Sunday of Advent

**Saturday, December 10th**

5 pm Mass - **Boyle Family**

**Sunday, December 11th**

8:30 am Mass - **Raynor Family**

11:15 am Mass - **Reilly Family**

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

**Saturday, December 17th**

5 pm Mass - **Kern Family**

**Sunday, December 18th**

8:30 am Mass - **Troncalli & Goodman Families**

11:15 am Mass - **Lewis Family**

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**Be patient until the  
coming of the Lord**

## Assignments—Dec. 12 ~ Dec. 18

### MONDAY MASS

**12/12/2016**

**9:00 AM & 7:00 PM**

**Our Lady of Guadalupe— 7:00 pm**

|               |                                     |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Altar Servers | *                                   |
| Greeters      |                                     |
| Lectors       | Gloria Raynor                       |
| Ministers     | Deacon, Anna Emerick, Maria Jimenez |
| Ushers        | *                                   |

### WEDNESDAY

**12/14/2016**

**7:00 PM**

**Reconciliation Service**

|               |                               |
|---------------|-------------------------------|
| Altar Servers |                               |
| Lector        | Charmaine Welch               |
| Greeters      | Teri Gagliano, Gisela Scruggs |

### SATURDAY MASS

**12/17/2016**

**5:00 PM**

|               |                                   |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| Altar Servers | Tom Graffo, James Raynor          |
| Greeters      | Connie Hertrich, Janice Stella    |
| Lectors       | Allen Ross, Phyllis Ross          |
| Ministers     | Deacon, Allen Ross, Phyllis Ross  |
| Ushers        | Bob Hand, Karen Hand, Sam Marston |

### SUNDAY MASS

**12/18/2016**

**8:30 AM**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

|               |                                                                    |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Altar Servers | Andrew Thomaston, Will Thomaston, Amelia Reese, Danielle McKinney  |
| Greeters      | Shirley Skeivelas, Julie/Bob Paulitzky                             |
| Lectors       | Joe Yester, Gloria Raynor                                          |
| Ministers     | Deacon, Janice Stella, Joe Stanley, Stephen Reese, Rosemary Mateer |
| Ushers        | Michael Gagliano, Lance Stella, Rosemary Mateer, Jimillia Sayles   |

**11:15 AM**

|               |                                                                               |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Altar Servers | Paul Boyle, John Himmler, Destiny Markevich, Travis Cooley                    |
| Greeters      | Lydia Jimenez, Katie Boyle                                                    |
| Lector        | Sarah Brazzolotto, Rose Ballard                                               |
| Ministers     | Deacon, Ronnie Sellers, Jennifer Sellers, Tommie Ann Johnson, Brenda Rochford |
| Ushers        | Don Frederick, Chris Gallegly, William Ngambou                                |

**If you cannot keep your assignment**

**PLEASE find a substitute.**

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

**December 11 Third Sunday of Advent**  
P.S.R. Classes at 9:45am  
**Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
**High School**

**December 18 Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
P.S.R. Classes at 9:45am  
**Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
**3rd, 4th & 5th Grades**

**December 24 Christmas Eve— Youth Mass**  
**Mass begins at 4:30pm**



### **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!**

## Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration

Celebrando a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe



**Monday Dec. 12th, 7:00 pm**  
Lunes 12 de diciembre, 7:00 pm

**Our Lady of the Lake Church**  
Highway 231 S, Pell City, Alabama

**Habr  comida para todos**  
**despu s de la Misa.**

**Please sign up to help or**  
**Bring a dish.**  
**Informes con: Mari: 525-0071**

life  
IS  
Precious

## Annual Respect Life Mass and March

**led by Bishop Baker**

**Saturday, January 14, 2017**

**Pray and Unite for Life Mass at**  
**Cathedral of St. Paul, 9:00 A.M.**

**Birmingham March for Life, 10:45 AM**

**Brother Bryan Park • 22nd Street South**  
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**www.BirminghamMarchforLife.com -**  
**205-447-8796**

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