



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 17, 2016

Mass 5:00 pm

Sunday, December 18, 2016

Masses 8:30 am & 11:15 am



Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 18, 2016

They shall name him
Emmanuel, which means
"God is with us."

— Matthew 1:23



Mass Intentions

December 19– December 25



Monday: Dan & Kris Flemming *by the Rumores*

Tuesday: Tom Zopfi, Sr. *by the Zopfi Family* †

Wednesday: Joseph Amaro, Jr. *by the Zopfi Family* †

Thursday: Frances McRae *by Paul & Parma Boyle* †

Friday: Tommy Zopfi *by the Zopfi Family* †

Saturday: Christmas Eve

Sunday: Christmas Day

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. 19—Dec. 25

Monday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a;
Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17;
Lk 1:5-25

Tuesday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab,
5-6; Lk 1:26-38

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

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

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

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

Sunday: 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]

Today's Readings



First Reading — You will be given this sign: the vir-
gin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall name
him Emmanuel. (Isaiah 7:10-14)

Psalm — Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.
(Psalm 24)

Second Reading — God has called us to belong to
Jesus Christ. (Romans 1:1-7)

Gospel — The son born of Mary shall be called
Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. He
shall be Emmanuel, "God is with us". (Matthew 1:18-
24)

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

Pastor's Message

"She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus because he will save his people from their sins—and they shall name him Emmanuel." (Mt. 1:23-24).

We stand so near to Christmas on this fourth Sunday of Advent. The grace-filled season of hope and longing draws to a close. We await the celebration of the birth of Jesus, our Savior and Lord.

Matthew's Infancy Narrative is suffused in mystery and wonder. Joseph occupies center stage in the selection for this Sunday (Mt. 1:18-24). It is a story of faith. Joseph at first resisting. He remains doubtful and suspicious of what is happening. How should he resolve the problem that faces him? Should he report Mary to the religious authorities or divorce her quietly? Matthew notes he was a "just man". God (the angel of the Lord) appeared to him in a dream.

He heard the words: "Have no fear in taking Mary as your wife—it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her".

"And when Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took his wife in to his home". Problem gave way to mystery. There was another way, the way of faith. Here is the invitation to all of us: Do not listen to your fears! Be attentive to your dreams.

When we surrender to the mystery of Christmas we may expect it to change us. It will transform us at a deep level. A time now to let Christmas happen. To calm the frenetic pace, the compulsive busyness. Let the Lord enter; he is the King of Glory.

Thoughts on Reaching Eighty: Yes, it's true. It cannot be denied. People in their kindness have said: "You look great" or, "You look so much younger. The first grader said: eighty- - that's really old". He spoke the unvarnished truth as children are wont to do.

I'm blessed beyond all measure, sustained by the faith and goodness and prayers of a great community here at Our Lady of the Lake Parish. Serving as Pastor here for ten years has been a great grace. I have been sustained too by many friends along the way and by a caring family back in Ireland.

These days the mind begins to think of endings and twilights and sunsets. Faith in life beyond life becomes more real. The daily aches and diminished energy and "the senior moments" when memory falters are subtle reminders of mortality. 'Tis a grace to be able to accept these and make them part of the final act on the stage of life.

St. Ignatius thought that a thick and shapeless tree trunk would never believe that it could become a statue, admired as a miracle of sculpture, and would never submit itself to the chisel of the sculptor, who sees by his genius what he can make of it. God is the sculptor who shapes us to his vision for us.

We learn to live with ambiguity and limits and rely more on God's grace which is never wanting. In the end, "All is gift and all is grace.

Thanks for your prayers and your great support.

Fr. Michael Sexton

December 18- December 25

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!



Monday-Dec. 19

Mass 9 am

- *Reconciliation 9:30 am-10:30 am
- *Legion of Mary
- *Bridge

Tuesday-Dec. 20

Mass 9 am

- *Reconciliation 9:30 am-10:30 am
- *NO RCIA

Wednesday-Dec 21

Mass 9:00 am

- *Reconciliation 9:30 am-10:30 am
- *Surfsiders 10 am
- *Sr. Youth 5:30-8:00 pm
- *NO Parish Council

Thursday-Dec. 22

Mass 9 am

- *Reconciliation 9:30 am-10:30 am
- *Choir Practice 7 pm

Friday-Dec. 23

Mass 9 am

- *Reconciliation 9:30 am-10:30 am

Saturday-Dec. 24

Christmas Eve

Masses 4:30 pm & 8:30 pm

- *Carols- 4:00 pm & 8:00 pm



Sunday-Dec. 25

Christmas Day

Mass 9:00 am



FINANCE NEWS
July 2015-June 2016

Last week

	Actual	Budget
*Offertory:	\$ 7874.75	\$ 5653.85

Year-to-date

*Offertory:	\$ 147,776.74	\$ 135,692.40
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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 – 108 cans

ULTREYA

ULTREYA meets Wednesday, Dec 28th, after the 7pm Mass in the Parish Hall.

Don't be left out; join us as we kindle the spark of the Holy Spirit in our lives and in the life of our Parish.

All those who have made their Cursillo, please think about attending. Spouses are most welcome!

3 Things to bring:

1. A wrapped (Dirty Santa) gift to exchange.
2. A potluck dish to share.
3. Your favorite bible scripture written on a piece of paper.

See you there!!!



Saints and Special Observances

Sunday: *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

Tuesday: *St. Peter Canisius; Winter Solstice*

Thursday: *St. John of Kanty*

Friday: *The Vigil of Christmas*

Saturday: *The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)*



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.



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Advent Wreath Candle Lighters



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**

**2017 Offertory
envelopes are available for
pickup in the Church Hall. If
yours is not there please call
the office: 205.525.5161.**

From the MorteKs:

For the last 14 years, our church family at Our Lady of the Lake has been very special to us and we've been fortunate to be able to serve the Lord in some capacity. The next few years will be an exciting time at OLL as you plan and build the next phase of the parish. We wish all of you well.

We expect to come back and visit and hope that some of you may be able to stop by and see us on your way to the beach. Please let us know when you are visiting the Gulf.

Jim & Marcia MorteK
441 Collinwood Loop
Foley, AL 36535
205-410-7789

Assignments—Dec. 21— Dec. 25

WEDNESDAY
7:00 PM

12/21/2016

Altar Servers
Lector Teri Gagliano

SATURDAY MASS
4:30 PM

Christmas Eve 12/24/2016

Altar Servers *
Greeters Youth
Lectors Youth
Ministers Deacon, Youth, Youth, Wayne Adams,
Mary Adams
Ushers Michael Gagliano, Gregg Becnel, Don
Frederick, Chris Frey

8:30 PM

Altar Servers *
Greeters Laura Headley, Brian/Francis Poteracki
Lectors Larry Foltz, Tony Hollis
Ministers Deacon, Jim Dale, Sonia Dale, Larry
Reese, Sara Reese
Ushers Chris Gallegly, Laura Headley, Bit
Thomaston, Phillip Thomaston

SUNDAY MASS
9:00 AM

Christmas Day 12/25/2016

Altar Servers *
Greeters Patsy Lopez de Victoria, Patrick Cowart
Lectors Carey Monistere, Dennis Veigl
Ministers Deacon, Chris Gallegly, Tom Graffo,
Ronnie Sellers, Jennifer Sellers
Ushers Bob Hand, Karen Hand

If you cannot keep your assignment

PLEASE find a substitute.

It's **Advent**: The Season for Anticipation

In all your preparations: decorations, gifts, family events, food, etc.

Have you prepared your heart?

Jesus will be here soon and you are the "Inn Keeper."

Christmas is not the presents, not the carols, but the humble heart that receives

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**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR**

M.Y.C.

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 4:30pm,

Caroling begins at 4:00pm

**The Christmas Program will begin about
10-15 minutes before the Celebration of the
Mass and will help us prepare for Mass.
Make sure to get there early!**

December 25

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

CHRISTMAS DAY!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS!!!

NO P.S.R.



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 the Lake
Welcomes the following
New Members
to our Church Family:*



Paul & Vickie Mink

*Welcome one another, then, as Christ
welcomed you, for the glory of God.*

- Romans 15:7

Parish Council

Chair: Sonia Dale:

wmkdale2000@gmail.com

Vice Chair: Mark McRae:

mmcrae237@yahoo.com

Secretary: Karen Hand

wmkhand@yahoo.com

Beth Brouillette: beth_brouillette@yahoo.com

Sonya Lewis: catjames@centurytel.net

Joanna Murphree: Joannam1222@aol.com

Gloria Raynor: grodgers2010@gmail.com

Carl Rochford: rochfordc@bellsouth.net

Joe Stanley: roltyde1@aol.com

Important Announcement from Bishop Baker:

Currently, 18 out of 24 Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Birmingham are receiving Tuition Assistance from the State of Alabama through a special fund set up by the State Legislature to help needy students.

As a parishioner paying state income tax you are allowed to designate up to 50 percent of your taxes to Scholarship for Kids.

You are encouraged to visit the website:

scholarshipsforkids.org to watch a brief instructional video on how to set up an account so that you can re-direct half of your State Income Tax to be used for Catholic Education.

This must be done before the end of this calendar year for the money to be used next year. Please note on your check the Catholic School you prefer to receive your tax dollars. Thanks for your help.

Fr. Sexton

Matthew Brazzolotto

Many of you have asked for contact info for Matthew in England. He would love to hear from all of you while he is on his Mission Trip.

Matthew Brazzolotto

52 Orrell Road

Bootle

L20 6DZ

United Kingdom

mcbrazzolotto@gmail.com

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