

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sacrament Emergency Number is 256-735-6858. This number is to be used for sacrament emergencies only and during non-office hours.

Important! The Church Office front door will now be locked during hours when only one employee is in the building. Please ring the doorbell on the right side of the door for assistance when locked. This is for their safety. Thank you in advance.

Out of Respect please do not come into the Church Office if you are sick, contagious, coughing, etc. This can result in the staff and Father Patrick getting sick. Please be considerate of others. Thank you!

Congratulations to Deacon Steve on his 7th year anniversary of being ordained a deacon.

Christmas Sharing - There's a tree in the vestibule with angels for adoption. Contact Courtney Warden for more info.

Dance Night is December 19th from 6-9pm in the gym.

Play practice dates for CYO Christmas Play are after 10am mass on 12/7, 12/14. PSR students may participate.

Gaudette Sunday Breakfast with the Knights of Columbus is December 14th in the gym after only the 7:30am Masses. Make plans to join us after Mass for food and fellowship.

Advent Penance Service is December 15th at 7pm. There will be four priests available to hear confession. Make plans to attend.

The Thursday morning Bible study will resume study on January 8th. We will study the heresies the church has encountered. We will be using a DVD series produced by EWTN. We will discuss one heresy a week.

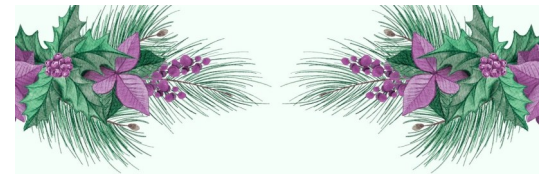
Tuesday Morning Bible Study will resume on January 6, 2026.

Homeschooling! Sacred Heart Loretto is hosting local Catholic families who are Homeschooling their children. If you are interested in this group please contact Anita Jones at 931-279-2926.

Knights of Columbus are selling raffle tickets. Please see a KOC member to get your ticket after Mass.

Christmas Mass Schedule: 4pm Children's Mass, 12am Midnight Mass and 10am Christmas Day Mass.

Knights of Columbus invites all men (you don't have to be a Knight) to rediscover the power of scripture. Our next meeting will be Thursday evening December 11th at 7:00 pm at the Knights of Columbus Hall on County Rd. 30. We are using the Men of the Word, The good news Bible study guide. December session Seven: Jesus – Incarnate Teacher consists of Mark 1:14-20, Mark 8:34-30, Matthew 5:1-12, Luke 10:25-28 and John 14:1-14. All men are invited to join this Bible Study. You may contact Danny Tamayo @ dmtamayo@outlook.com Ph. 928-246-3207 or Deacon Steve Kirkpatrick.



Advent Penance



December 15th at 7pm
Join us for Reconciliation to prepare our hearts for the coming of Baby Jesus!
Four priest will be available.



CHRISTMAS AT THE GROTTO

Experience the magic of the season at Ave Maria Grotto, beautifully lit and filled with festive cheer! Wander through Br. Joseph's stunning creations, glowing under holiday lights, and enjoy music, food, and family fun.

2025 Event Dates:

Dec 4-7

Open 11AM-9PM (Thurs, Fri, Sat) and Sun (12pm-8pm) Lights on at 5PM

Dec 11-23

Open 11AM-9PM (Mon- Sat) and Sun (12pm-8pm) Lights on at 5PM

Don't Miss the Grotto's Special Weekend – Dec 13 & 14! Meet Santa, Horse-drawn wagon rides (\$5), Live music & entertainment, Food trucks

Admission: Adults: \$12 | Seniors: \$10 | Military/First Responders: \$9
 Teens (13-17): \$10 | Kids (5-12): \$9 | Under 4: FREE

Ava Maria Grotto

1600 St Bernard Drive SE
 Cullman, AL 35055 | 256-734-4110

ACTIVITY DIRECTOR NOTES

Nursery now available in Parish House during 10 am mass. This service is available for your little one ages birth -4 yrs old. A parent must sign in their child when dropping off child, not a sibling. Anyone who would still like to be a greeter or work in Nursery, contact Donna.

4 pm Christmas Eve Mass: Does your child play an instrument? Contact Donna if they would like to play a Christmas hymn they know before mass. Also, youth are needed as readers for this mass.

Choir Practice for Midnight Mass will be Wednesday nights after 6 pm mass. Last practice will be on Mon 12/22 at 6pm. Voices welcome.

Yard Sale profits to date are \$5,230 from online sales. Updates as items sell.

Dec 13 Senior Appreciation Meal, 11am ages 65 and up. Not too late to call Donna. Enjoy a good meal, a fun game, and good times together. Please call or text Donna if you would like to come so that we can plan how much food to prepare.

Dec. 14: Parish Christmas Meal and Play, 5 pm is next Sunday. Meat, bread and drinks provided. Please bring a vegetable/salad or dessert to share.

Family Mass Dec. 21 @ the 10 am mass.

Soup Kitchen, Next soup kitchen will be Jan. 17

Submitted by Donna Peters, contact Donna for more info at 256-577-1607.

The group delivering gifts to Cullman on December 19 will be happy to deliver baked goods and bingo prizes. These may be placed in the box in the memorial chapel. More than one-half of our appeal for money has been met. Thank you. The appeal continues through December. Contact Carolyn Eck at 256-436-2045.



**FEAST OF THE
IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION**

MASS TIMES

7:30 AM
12 PM
6 PM

DECEMBER 8TH

**HOLY DAY OF
OBLIGATION**

Be Set Free: Healing the Wounded Heart

January 9–10, 2026

Hosted by Arise Worship Ministry and Women of Grace®

5-Part Retreat for Men and Women

Seminars, Prayer, Fellowship, and Music!

Seminars with EWTN
television and radio host:

**Johannette
Benkovic Williams**



Music with Catholic
recording artist:

**Danielle
Rose**

Discover the healing power of Our Lord and be set free!

Event Schedule:

Friday, January 9th 6:30pm - 9:30pm
6:30pm Registration & Refreshments
7:00pm Welcome & Introductions
7:15pm Opening Music
7:30pm *Let the Healing Begin!*
9:00pm Adoration
9:30pm Closing Music

Saturday, January 10th 8:00am - 3:30pm
8:00am Registration & Refreshments
8:30am Welcome & Introductions
8:45am Opening Music
9:00am *The Wounded Heart*
10:00am Reflection Break
10:30am *Rescue and Recovery*
11:30am Reflection Break
12:00pm Lunch (included)
12:45pm *Tools of Transformation, Part 1*
1:45pm Break
2:00pm *Tools of Transformation, Part 2*
3:00pm Music & Prayer
3:30pm Closing Remarks

ARISE
WORSHIP MINISTRY

WOMEN OF GRACE

To Register and for More Info:

Scan the QR Code -----
Visit: www.womenofgrace.com/events
Call: 1-800-558-5452
Email: info@womenofgrace.com

\$45 includes Sat lunch, Clergy and Religious are free.



Event Location:

St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church
7340 Cahaba Valley Road
Birmingham, AL 35242