



*Our Lady of Sorrows Church*  
December 3, 2017

From the Pastor's Desk

My Dear People:

Many people are so busy with the day's work, that they lose track of the whole picture, the real goal of our lives. The whole picture is our eternal life with God. Sometimes, working for this enormously great goal gets put on the back burner and sometimes off the stove.

In the work on devils, C.S. Lewis describes the senior devil teaching the junior devils that the best way "to get" people is to convince them that there is "no hurry." When the last sickness comes, and we can barely say one prayer because of sickness or semi-consciousness, the spirit of evil has kept us from a close relationship with our Creator. Yet, developing this relationship with God is the purpose of our lives on earth.

The Church, in her wisdom, gives us the Advent season to stop and see the whole picture, the indescribable importance of the birth of the Savior. Yet, custom and the secular world make the weeks before Christmas the busiest weeks of the year. So the Church puts an emphasis on Advent, that great season of extra prayers and good works.

Doesn't it bother us to have people say, "Happy Holidays," in order to avoid the word Christmas, which carries with it the name of Christ? The more nativity scenes the better, on our cards, in our homes and in our yards. The Advent wreath, with the evergreen foliage that survives the winter, reminds us that we can survive the winters of our lives.

There is a two-fold aspect of our Advent readings: 1) The historic longing and waiting for the First Coming of Christ in Bethlehem, and; 2) The Second Coming, when He "comes back to take us to Himself." We need to delve into the Old Testament history, reading about Isaiah and other prophets

predicting the coming of Jesus. The first aspect is satisfied when we celebrate on Christmas the actual coming of Jesus as that Infant in Bethlehem. The Second Coming of Christ is the longing for heaven. We may not know we have that longing, but as one experiences one desire after another on this earth, we say with St Augustine:

LORD, OUR HEARTS WERE  
MADE FOR YOU AND THEY  
WILL NEVER REST UNTIL THEY  
REST IN YOU.

I love the way Thanksgiving rolls right into the Advent season because we need to keep the spirit of giving thanks right through Advent, thanking God for the Gift of all gifts, the gift of His Son born in Bethlehem.

Advent is a holy season, meaning extra prayers or extra effort in the daily prayers we say already. We know the greatest of prayers is the offering of Jesus to the Father at Mass on Sundays and, if possible, during the week.

With prayers and blessings,  
Father Muller

**The Mass Schedule for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception is:**

Thursday, Dec. 7	Vigil at 6 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 8	6:30, 7:30, 9:00 a.m. 12 noon 6:00 p.m.



Vivian Bonamy, Vita D'Amico,  
Mary Ann Huie, Melanie  
Gilchrist, Charlie Kai  
Wadsworth



Monday, Dec. 4	Special Intention Mary Thornton Sp. Int. Margo Burgess & family
Tuesday, Dec. 5	Joel Gray Sp. Int. Roy & Tricia Hiller & family Sp. Int. Lexi Bresle & family
Wednesday, Dec. 6	Special Intention Mary Thornton Sp. Int. Tawanna Salters & family
Thursday, Dec. 7	Special Intention Mary Thornton Sp. Int. Carol Chesnutt & family
Friday, Dec. 8	Charles Woods Mary Thornton Sp. Int. Christine Golab
Saturday, Dec. 9	Donors to OLS School Foundation Mary Thornton Sp. Int. Renee Williams
Sunday, Dec. 10	Don C. Smith/People of the Parish Frances Wojick David Cecilia Stephens

## **CHAPEL OF OUR SAVIOR**

The Chapel needs permanent Committed Adorers for:

**Friday at 10:00 PM (With Partner)**

**Saturday at 3:00 PM (With Partner)**

Our goal is to have at least 2 people on each hour. These are the hours needed, but do select an hour that best fits your schedule. Please call Mary Claire Brouillette at 871-2909 or Trudy Carpri at 643-0248.

**Everyone is invited to join us at Adult Education** on Sunday, December 10. Our speaker will be Eric Dooley. His topic will be *Gender Identity Crisis: A Call To Love*. The gathering begins in the Parish Hall after the Birthday Party for Jesus at 10 a.m. This is the last class of the calendar year.

**V.I.P.** will be held on Tuesday, December 5. Mass begins at 11 a.m. in the Parish Hall, followed by lunch and bingo. Come join your friends and neighbors for faith, fellowship and fun!

**Our Lady of Peace** will meet in the Sodality Room on Monday, December 4, for our annual Christmas party. Refreshments will be served starting at 11:30 a.m. and will be followed by a catered lunch to be served at 12 noon.

**St. Ann's Guild** will hold its annual Christmas Party and Luncheon on Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. All are welcome! Please RSVP to Paula Gasser at 807-6072.

**Volunteers needed!** Children's Liturgy will participate in the **Birthday Party for Jesus** on December 10<sup>th</sup> following the 8:30 a.m. mass. We will present a live nativity, and children are needed to serve as cantors, readers and actors in the nativity scene. All children are encouraged to take part in the fun and festivities! Sign up with Greg Harber ([gharber@mindspring.com](mailto:gharber@mindspring.com) or 205-807-8055) after mass on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will have a rehearsal on December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 11:00 – 12:00 p.m. (after PSR classes). Snacks and drinks will be provided.

**All families are invited** to attend the Birthday Party for Jesus immediately following the 8:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, December 10, in the Parish Hall. Please bring a "birthday gift", an item to be donated to Her Choice Birmingham.

**An Advent Rosary** will be prayed on Wednesday, December 6, at 10 a.m. in the Church. Benediction will follow the Rosary. All members of the parish are invited and encouraged to participate. Please bring your family members and friends. You may also place any written personal intentions in a prayer basket. After the Rosary, the basket will be placed before the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel of Our Savior. The Rosary will be led by the OLS Altar Sodality.

The OLS Music Ministry invites everyone to an afternoon of Advent Music this Sunday, December 3, at 3 p.m. in the Church. All Choirs will be performing, as well as several other soloists and instrumentalists. Please come and get in the Advent spirit with us! All are welcome!

## What's Going on in Youth Ministry?

**Dec. 5:** Walk with us to the Homewood Christmas Parade at 6:30 p.m.! Meet in the Parish Hall for dinner at 5:30 p.m.

### LifeTeen High School

**Dec. 3:** Faith Formation at 10 a.m.; Life Night "Made to Last" at 7 p.m.

**Every Wednesday at 7 p.m.:** Summit Scripture Bible Study in the youth room!

### Edge Middle School

**Dec. 3:** "Not Alone". Join us for an Edge Issue Night where the teens will know that in the midst of loneliness and depression they are not alone and that there is a God and a community that loves and cares about them. Dinner begins at 7 p.m. in the Assemble Hall.

**Christmas Drive:** Please consider donating a new, unwrapped toy for children ages 4-12, or new coats, blankets, gloves, hats and scarves for Greater Birmingham Ministries. Items will be delivered on December 11, so please bring your gift to Youth Group by December 10.

**Camp Hidden Lake:** Reserve a spot for your teen for June 18-23, 2018. Cost is now \$225. Open to rising 6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> graders. Email: [msyouthminister@ourladyofsorrows.com](mailto:msyouthminister@ourladyofsorrows.com) for more information.

Find our full schedule on [www.olsyouth.com](http://www.olsyouth.com)!

The joint youth groups of OLS (elementary, middle and high school) are participating in the Homewood Christmas Parade on Tuesday, Dec. 5. All 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders are to dress like sheep (all white), middle and high schoolers are to dress like shepherds (some costumes available). We will meet in the Parish Hall at 5:30 p.m. for dinner and then walk to the library at 6 p.m. to line up. The parade begins at 6:30 p.m. at the library, ending at City Hall Plaza. We will walk back to the Parish Hall afterwards. Please note that this is NOT a drop off event for 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders; they must be accompanied by an adult, or a high school sibling for the dinner and duration of the parade. Younger siblings are welcome to dinner and to participate in the parade; please include them in the registration. Register at this link: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdzB0REaKLfml\\_k0-rb8LGo2oYP\\_DnOdreQwvMvdnqtNE0XGg/viewform?embedded=true](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdzB0REaKLfml_k0-rb8LGo2oYP_DnOdreQwvMvdnqtNE0XGg/viewform?embedded=true). Please send all questions to [ecm@ourladyofsorrows.com](mailto:ecm@ourladyofsorrows.com).



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