



*Our Lady of Sorrows Church*  
December 1, 2019

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 in 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

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**First Friday Devotions** will be held on  
Friday, December 6, at 6:00 a.m.

**First Saturday Devotions** will be held on  
Saturday, December 7, at 7:00 a.m.

**LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH (R.C.I.A.)!** If God is calling you to come, please come. Meal at 5:45 p.m., small groups at 6:30, and lecture at 7 every Monday in the Parish Hall. Childcare is available.



*Mass Intentions*

Monday, Dec. 2	Special Intention Charles Leo, Jr. Sp. Int. Ross Gagliano
Tuesday, Dec. 3	Earl Abts Miriam Farmer Sp. Int. Nighisti & Fran Nagassi & family
Wednesday, Dec. 4	Special Intention Dolly Barranco Kitty David
Thursday, Dec. 5	Special Intention Dolly Barranco Sam Salerno
Friday, Dec. 6	Special Intention Sp. Int. Jennifer Rodriguez Danny Waters
Saturday, Dec. 7	Donors to OLS School Foundation Sam Salerno Dr. Bill & Mildred Stephens
Sunday, Dec. 8	People of the Parish Charles Woods Louis DiChiara



Pray  
FOR THE  
SICK

Vita D'Amico, Mary Ann  
Huie, Charlie Kai Wadsworth,  
Melanie Gilchrist, Kennie  
Skellie, Buddy DiChiara

**CHAPEL OF OUR SAVIOR**

The Chapel needs permanent Committed Adorers for:

- Monday at 3 PM (Share with Partner)**
- Thursday at 4 PM (Share with Partner)**
- Friday at 8 AM (Share with Partner)**
- Friday at 9 AM (Share with Partner)**
- Friday at 1 PM (Share with Partner)**
- Saturday at 8 AM (Share with Partner)**
- Saturday at 11 AM (Share 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.

**Titling cards were mailed last week. We will collect them December 14 & 15.**

**Everyone is invited** to attend Adult Education on Sunday, December 8. Our speaker is Dr. Jean-Francois Pittet. His topic is *Venerable Dr. Jerome Lejeune: Defender of Unborn Life Who Discovered the Cause of Down Syndrome*. The gathering begins in the parish Hall at 9:45 a.m. with fellowship and light refreshments and the class begins at 10 a.m. Childcare is available in the nursery.

**V.I.P.** will be held on Tuesday, December 3. Mass begins at 11 a.m. in the Parish Hall, followed by lunch and bingo.



**Children's Liturgy of the Word:**

**Volunteers needed!** Children's Liturgy will participate in the **Birthday Party for Jesus**

on December 15, 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 the 8:30 a.m. Mass on December 1, and December 8. We will have a rehearsal in the Parish Hall on December 8, from 11a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (after PSR classes). Snacks and drinks will be provided.

**The Adult Choir** is gearing up for Christmas Eve Mass and would like to invite you to join us as we celebrate the birth of Christ. The Adult Choir will sing at the 4 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve, alongside the Children's Choir. If you would like to sing some traditional Christmas Carols with us, you are always welcome. Rehearsals are every Wednesday night from 6:30-8 p.m. in the music room. For more information, contact Caroline Spears at [cspears@ourladyofsorrows.com](mailto:cspears@ourladyofsorrows.com).

**Our Lady of Peace Guild** will meet for our Christmas luncheon on Monday, December 2, at 11:30 a.m. in the Sodality Room. The cost of the catered lunch is \$12. We are still collecting Christmas toys for the Hispanic Ministry.

**St Ann's Guild** will meet on December 4, in the Assembly Hall of the Family Life Center. ([3295 Parkridge Dr. 35209](https://www.google.com/maps/place/3295+Parkridge+Dr,+Birmingham,+AL+35209) for gps directions). Doors open at 10 a.m., Rosary at 10:12, Devotional and prayer requests at 10:30. We will enjoy our Christmas fundraising event for local families in need. We will have door prize drawings for all participants. A delicious buffet lunch will be provided by our lunch committee. All ladies of the parish are welcome to join us. Please contact co-chairs Jen Dent at [jendavisdent@bellsouth.net](mailto:jendavisdent@bellsouth.net), 205 903-7353 or Anne McMahon at [afhmcMahon@gmail.com](mailto:afhmcMahon@gmail.com), 205 936-9183 for questions. No reply is required.

### ***What's Going on in Youth Ministry?***

**Sunday, December 1:** No meetings!

**Wednesday, December 4:** Join us as we spread Christmas cheer to the OLS parishioners in senior living centers and hospice care. Join us for Christmas Caroling at 5 pm. Meet in the FLC Youth Room (3rd Floor). This event is open to **ALL FAMILIES** at OLS and especially teens (grades 6-12).

**Sunday, December 8:** Join us for guest speaker Maggie Craig. Dinner starts at 7 p.m. in the Assembly Hall.

Check out [olsyouth.com](http://olsyouth.com) for our complete Fall schedules!

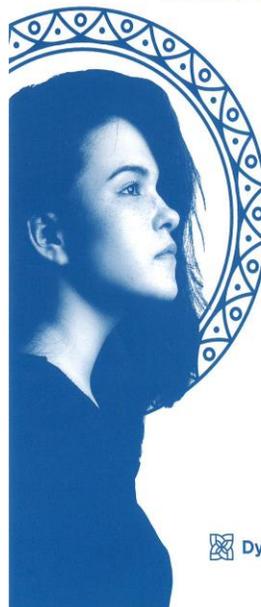
**First Light** is a shelter for Homeless Women and Children located in the heart of downtown Birmingham. It offers the only emergency shelter accepting homeless women with children 24 hours a day. Volunteering at First Light can be a deeply gratifying experience. We often hear how our

volunteers get so much more than they give. Our Lady of Sorrows works with the shelter approximately 14 days a year. If you would like to volunteer to provide food or service for the shelter, please send your email address to Leslie Bentley at [leslie@flanaganllc.net](mailto:leslie@flanaganllc.net). All food donations can be left at the OLS Mom's Day Out Nursery. Thank you!

**The Italian American Heritage Society** is planning a trip to New Orleans on Monday February 10 through Thursday, February 13, 2020. Depending on the number of people, the price will range from \$300-\$400 per person. A \$50 non-refundable deposit is due by December 8, the day of the society's Christmas party and the full amount is due January 30. To reserve a place, contact Joe Lovoy at 205-230-1127 or Marie Swift at 205-960-2029. More details can be found on the society website [www.iahsbham.com](http://www.iahsbham.com).

## **AMAZING POSSIBILITIES**

God Sees Them All.  
It's Time You See Them Too!



Join Matthew Kelly and the Dynamic Catholic team for BEST ADVENT EVER—a free email program that will help you enjoy a few minutes of peace and prayer each day during the hectic holidays!

Take the first step toward discovering your amazing future at [BestAdventEver.com](http://BestAdventEver.com)

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