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**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**506 COUNTY ROAD 1 - WEDOWEE, AL 36278**

**December 22, 2024**

**4th. Sunday in Advent**

**Reverend Gali** **Balaswamy gbalaswamy10@gmail.com**334-497-4847

**Mass Times: Sunday English 10:30 am**

 **Spanish: 12:00 pm**

 **Friday Mass: Spanish: 6:00 pm**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation: Friday’s at 5:30 pm**

 **Sunday’s at 11:30 am**

**Contact Information:** Parish office: 256-357-2977

 Email: immaculateconceptional@gmail.com

 Website: Immaculateconceptional.org

 Facebook: Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

**Mission Statement:** *To enable ourselves and others to know, love and serve God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. To participate in and provide the Sacraments. To promote spiritual growth and religious education and fellowship of the Catholic Church to all. To utilize the talents, leadership qualities and special skills given to us as a diversified parish family and to promote unity and develop closer relationships with other Christian faiths.*

**Pope's December Prayer Intention --**  For Pilgrims of Hope... Let us pray that this Jubilee strengthens us in our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in the midst of our lives, transforming us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

***WE WISH EVERYONE A VERY BLESSED, SAFE AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS!!***

Weekly Mass Attendance: English 51 Spanish 129

**Weekly Offerings**

 Weekly Collection: $ 1215.00 Lady of Guadalupe $301

 Flowers $1,0015

 Weekly Online: $ 1011.47

 Building Fund: $ 1434.00

 Building Online: $ 256.22



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**ONLINE GIVING IS NOW AVAILABLE AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION. Text to give is now available at Immaculate Conception.** Just text the word “give” to 256-330-5544 and follow the links to set up a one time or recurring donation. Choose your convenient way to contribute either by text, online link https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/icwedowee or QR Code Why not set up your recurring donation today and forget about writing checks. If anyone has any questions or needs help concerning any online giving options, feel free to contact Gerry Gettiinger. 

**ST. BLAISE HALL** is available for small gatherings. Anyone wishing to use the hall for any reason **MUST HAVE THEIR GATHERING PUT ON THE CHURCH CALENDAR**. Contact Michele at variscom506@gmail.com or 678-481-0529

**PRAY FOR THE SICK** –Bennett Lundy (grandson of Brett and Laurie Lundy), Chuck Smith, Patti Livingston, Hiram Massengale, Jim Betts, Lanelle Cova, Cass, Mike Cova, Helen Betts, Nawana Winkles

**GUIDELINES FOR RECEPTION OF SACRAMENTS**

**BAPTISM:** Contact Maria Gembe. She will set the date for Classes and confer with Fr Bala for a Baptismal Date. A minimum of 30 days, notice and completion of Baptismal preparation class and documentation must be completed before a date may be set.

**MARRIAGE**: Anyone planning a wedding must first contact Fr Bala. The guidelines set by the Diocese of B’ham state that one must contact the Pastor a minimum of 6 months prior to the selection of a date for the marriage. There are no exceptions.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**: The youth must be in the second grade, older, and actively engaged in PSR for 2 or more years.

**CONFIRMATION:** The individual must be in the 7th grade, or older, and actively engaged in a two-year Confirmation preparation program.

**QUINCEANERA:** Individuals must contact Fr Bala at least 6 months prior to setting a date and begin a time of preparation to fully understand the significance of the celebration. There are no exceptions.

**PARISH NEWS:**

**NO MASS ON Friday December 27, Fr. Bala will be out of town.**

We will be **decorating the inside of the church on Monday, December 23 at 9:00 a.m.**   Please come if you are available.

***DECEMBER SCHEDULE***

Dec. 20 - Advent Penance available 5-6 p.m. and again at 6:30

Dec. 22 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

Dec. 23 - Decorate inside of church  9 a.m.

Dec. 25 - Christmas Masses  10:30 English   12:00 Spanish

Dec. 29 - Sunday Mass schedule

January 1 - Solemnity of Mary  10:30 English  12:00 Spanish

***CHRISTMAS FLOWER PRAYER INTENTIONS***

***IN HONOR OF:***  U.S. Military, Cain Family, Zuck 30th Anniversary, Rumaldo Velazquez Family

***IN MEMORY OF:***  Nancy Hopkins, Jerrodene Kerr, Raymond Kerr, Lewis Miller, Leslie Stanley, Ed Vielhaber, Burke Family, Tolentino Family, Beatrice Laverick, Michael Laverick, Amarante Chavez, Gabriella Mejia, Letecia Salas, Anadeto Lopez, Teresa Godinez, Julio Velasquez, Bryson Roberts, France Roberts, Hugh Ellis, Eleanor Ellis, Albert Gregg, Frank & Dorothy Varisco, Fred & Elaine Reiland, Roland Paguyo, Louise Pool

**FOOD PANTRY** If you would like to donate food to the Immaculate Conception Food Pantr**y**, there is a list of needed items in the pantry. Monetary donations may also be made.Please remember that if you need food, whether you are Immaculate Conception parishioner or not, please contact Elvira Allende, 256 914-9645 or Stephanie Roberts, 256 276-8133, bedeh0426@gmail.com

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**PASTORAL MINISTRIES**

**Reverend Bala Balaswamy**

**Michele Varisco:** Parish Council Chairperson

Email: variscom506@gmail.com Cell (678) 481-0529

**Tommy Cain:** Finance Council Chairperson

 Email: tcain8@bellsouth.net Cell (251) 454-8160

**Jim & Stephanie Roberts:** Building Committee

 Email: jim@multimetco.com

**Anel Covarrubias:** Hispanic Liaison

 Cell: (334) 863-1137

 anercovarrubias7@gmail.com

**December Schedule:**

Sunday, Dec. 22 -- Lector:  Charlotte   Announcer:  Brett

                                E.M.:  Helen

                                Usher:  Tom & Michele

Christmas, Dec. 25 -- Lector:  Charlotte    Announcer:  Gerry

                                   E.M.:  Patty

                                   Usher:  Tommy & Roger

Sunday, Dec. 29 -- Lector:  Chip    Announcer:  Michele

                                E.M: Gerry

 Usher: Paul & Tommy

**Sacristan:** Alison & Nawana

**Alter Linens 2024**

December - Sandra

**Church Cleaning Schedule:**

December 21 - Anker & Christensen & Burke

January 4, 2025 - Francisca Velazquez & Family

January 18, 2025 - Cain & Broyles

February 1 - Juan Velasquez & Family

February 15 - Galdino Velazquez & Family