



St. Joseph's

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Founded 1875

255 North 8th St. (P. O. Box 368) Ponchatoula, LA 70454

Church Phone Number: (985) 386-3749

Church Web site: www.stjosephsonline.com

Church Office Hours: Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Sunday Mass Schedule:

Sat. Vigil 5:00 pm
Sun. 8:00 am & 11:00 am

Week Day Mass Schedule:

M-Th 8:00 am

Confession:

Sat. 4:00 PM
T & Th after Mass

Baptism:

Couples who would like their child baptized need to contact Ramona at the office, 985-386-3749 to register for baptism preparation.

Marriage:

Contact a priest or deacon of the parish at least 6 months before the wedding at 985-386-3749.

Anointing of the Sick:

Please notify the office as soon as a Catholic is seriously ill or is having surgery.

Adoration:

Wed. 9:00 am to 6:00 pm
- **Divine Mercy:** 3:00 pm
- **Vespers & Benediction:** 6:00 pm

Catechetical Programs:

PSR-Gr. K-5; Sun 9:30-10:30 am
Ablaze-Gr. 6-8; Sun 9:30-10:30 am
High School Formation
Gr. 9-12; Sun. 5:00-7:00 pm

SAFETY GUIDELINES

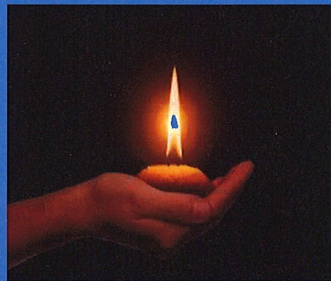
Parishioners are required to bring and wear a mask while in the worship space. The faithful are encouraged to bring small bottles of hand sanitizer for their personal use.

December 13, 2020 Third Sunday of Advent

BLUE CHRISTMAS

A Community Worship Service of Loss and Remembrance

Blue Christmas is a gentle, healing service for those who are mourning a loss during this season of celebration.



Monday, December 21, 2020, 6:00 p.m.– 7:00 p.m.

Followed by a light meal and fellowship

Ponchatoula Community Center

300 N. Fifth St.

Doors open at 5:45 p.m.

SEATING IS LIMITED

For more information or to reserve your seat, please call 985-687-4458

Sponsored by Stephen Ministers and Ponchatoula Knights of Columbus

PSR students create advent wreaths.



3rd Grade



K-1st Grade

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Staff

Rev. Paul A. McDuffie, *Pastor*
Larry J. Melancon, *Deacon*
Michael A. Agnello, *Deacon*
Angela Perrin, *Business Manager*
Fernando Morales, *Director of Ministries*
Paige Bacile, *PSR Coordinator/Child Protection Site Coordinator*
Kayla Fletcher, *Middle School Youth Minister*
Nicole Richard, *High School & Young Adult Minister*

Rhonda Rossano, *Music Director*
Ramona Folse, *Receptionist/Data Entry*
Kathleen Phillips, *Bookkeeper/Receptionist*
St. Joseph School
Mrs. Danette Ragusa, *Principal*
Phone Number, 985-386-6421
Website: www.sjscrusaders.org

Mission Statement

St. Joseph's Parish is a rapidly growing faith community that serves the spiritual and temporal needs of Southernmost Tangipahoa Parish through its various ministries.

St. Joseph's develops, supports, nurtures and educates Catholic Christians while offering to this entire expanding community a caring environment and a welcoming spirit of Christ present.

Parish Ministries and Contact Persons

Altar Servers: Michele & Glen Ernst, 985-386-6618. sj_altar_server@bellsouth.net
Bible Studies: *Cancelled Until Further Notice.*
Children's Liturgy Ministry: Paige Bacile 985-386-3749.
Cooking Ministry: Cook a plate of food for our Priest one day each month, call Linda Guagliardo 985-345-8409.
Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion: Angela Pevey (Call / text) 985-507-5757.
Readers: Larry Ernst, 985-386-5731. lernst1@bellsouth.net
Marriage Ministry: Ed & Julie Hanks, 985-351-3143.
Mass Greeters: Barbara Martino, 985-386-3622.
Music Ministry: Rhonda Rossano 985-386-3749
Parish School of Religion: Grades K-12; Paige Bacile 985-386-3749
Special Education PSR: 985-386-3749.
RCIA: Ed or Julie Hanks, 985-351-3143.
St. Joseph Bereavement Food Ministry: Cheryl Laiche, 985-386-2033 or Anne Phillips, 985-969-2700
Stephen Ministry: Anita or Ronnie Perrin, 985-687-4458 or 985-386-3016.
Ushers: Contact Joseph Jason, 985-386-8639.
Widowed Friends of St. Joseph: Barbara Guy at 985-507-9966.
Word & Worship Prayer Ministry: Fernando Morales: 985-662-2844.
Women's Ministry: Mary Vedeckis, 225-294-6631.
Youth Ministry: 985-386-3749

Organizations

Ancient Order of Hibernians: Ronnie Crimmins 985-773-8965.
Kaycee Auxiliary: Maureen Felder 225-294-3092 or maureenfelder75@gmail.com
Knights of Columbus: Buddy Williams, 504-252-2031 (Application for new members)
Rosary Altar Society: Evelyn Lavigne 985-386-6732
St. Vincent de Paul Society: For membership contact the church office, 985-386-3749. For assistance call 985-370-5459.
Core Group: Ronnie Perrin (Chairman), Lawton Hotard, Barbara Martino, Larry Melancon, Rebecca Smith, Larry Wilson
Finance Committee: Dennis James (Chairman) Michelle Ernst, Mike Fulmer, Larry Melancon, Brian Steib, Barbara Theriot .
Council of Ministries: Vance Balado, Melissa Henderson, Lisa Kennedy, Harry LeBlanc, Rachael Perrin, Stephanie Reggio, Rodney Schmaltz, Wayne Vedeckis, Stephanie Waguespack, Tom Waller, Bill Wheat. Ad Hoc Council Members: Fr. McDuffie, Deacon Larry Melancon, Fernando Morales, Danette Ragusa.

Download Our New Parish App!

Our new St. Joseph's app is now available to download for iPhone and Android smart phones. Stay connected with our parish throughout the week with instant notifications, an easy-to-access event calendar, and the ability to quickly reply to or share messages via Facebook or Twitter. Also enjoy a bunch of additional features like prayers, daily readings, helpful reminders to silence your phone before Mass or Confession, and much more.

Help foster a stronger parish life at St. Joseph's and better engage the New Evangelization.

Download our app today at myparishapp.com or search your phone's app store for my parish.



FORMED®

PICK OF THE WEEK

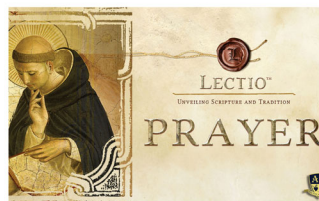
December 13, 2020

WATCH

**SAINT TERESA OF ÁVILA:
A STUDY IN PERSEVERANCE**
Both St. John of the Cross and his dear friend St. Teresa of Avila lived heroic lives of prayer. In honor of these spiritual masters, enjoy this film depicting the Carmelite way of life and the virtue of perseverance.

TRUE
REFORMERS

EPISODE 5
ST. TERESA
OF AVILA



LECTIO: PRAYER—AN INTIMATE

DIALOGUE

St. John of the Cross, Doctor of the Church, had a deep desire to help others grow in prayer. In honor of this mystical saint, join Dr. Gray as he dives into the simplicity and mystery of prayer.

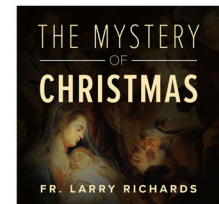
LEARN

LISTEN

THE MYSTERY OF CHRISTMAS

BY FR. LARRY RICHARDS

In this talk, Fr. Larry Richards reminds us that in the mystery of Christmas, God gives humanity his greatest gift—the gift of his Son to the world.



Our parish has a FORMED subscription. To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

Welcome New Member of the Parish Staff- Nicole Richard

I am here because of a talent that my father passed down to me and the faith that my mother instilled in me. It all began at age 6 when my dad taught me how to play “you are my sunshine “ on the guitar-for one whole year ...the same 3 chords. And my dad always thought it sounded better and better each day and my mother endured the constant practice of one song. By the time I was 10 years old I had a beautiful collection of songs and the volumes for GLORY & PRAISE guitar music. I began playing the guitar at the Masses at church and at school. My father joined me on the bass; my mother joined me with her voice ; other musicians and singers joined as well; and we became a Praise And Worship Band starting in the 80s that lasted about 16 years at my hometown church of Immaculate Conception in Sulphur, Louisiana. The music ministry led me to several retreats throughout Lake Charles, Lafayette, Beaumont Texas, Michigan, back to Texas, and finally back in my roots.



I began serving as a retreat core team leader right out of high school and for over 30 years the Lord has guided my steps by lighting up the path where He needed me.

I have a BA in special education and a minor in psychology from McNeese State University in 1992 and began teaching immediately. Yes I am MSU. I married my high school sweetheart, Kelly (who BTW was and still is the cutest altar boy .) Back then and even now he is my roadie, cook, and “spiritual engineer” in our serving the Lord. We have one son, Garrett, who graduated from Benedictine College, Kansas with a BA in finance while in quarantine in our kitchen May of this year. (side note .. my “saint crush” is Benedict). Garrett has accepted a 2 year position of a FOCUS Missionary at University of Nebraska in Kearney and also works with Athletic Catholic.

I have been very blessed to have my formal Youth Ministry Core Team training through Life Teen while we served at Saint Peter’s in Boerne, Texas. I am TOB certified with some other Catholic goodies through trainings in various diocese.

I’ve had a prayer of Sacred Heart, Healthy Heart for the past 20 years.

I am a Cooper Institute certified personal trainer, Dr Anderson Habits of Health online health coach, and group fitness exercise instructor with over 55 certifications including nutrition. I am currently employed with Spoga in Hammond, Louisiana and through the YMCA in West Saint Tammany Parish. I recently resigned from Holy Ghost Catholic Church as a youth minister for three years due to failing health of my father who by God’s design has been very generous in his healing. My Puerto Rican REIGN music “brudder”- Fernando Morales & my beautiful calm- natured sister in Christ – Angela Perrin – were the messengers the Lord sent to me to return to youth ministry.

And so here I am. Praying that God will continue to teach me how to lead with a servant’s heart by serving the high school youth ministry and young adult ministry at Saint Joseph’s Catholic Church.

Don’t forget the prayer challenge-set your alarms at 10:22 (am or pm or both) and Pray one Hail Mary for the youth and young adults of our parish.

Thank you all for your warm welcomes and prayers.

Mass Schedule for Christmas and the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Masses for Christmas: *December 24th:* 4 pm & 7 pm
December 25th: 10 am

Masses for Solemnity of Mary: *December 31st:* 6 pm & *January 1st:* 10 am



The Church Office will be closed from 12/24/2020 through 1/1/2021

Christmas Eve Masses

Greetings St. Joseph family,

I am so happy to announce to you that, this year, our **Christmas Eve Masses** will be held not only in the St. Joseph’s Church as usual but we will be live streaming using a large projection screen in our St. Joseph’s School gym. We are trying to follow the social distancing guidelines through the guidance of our Baton Rouge Diocese. This will also be a great option for over flow and for those who would rather choose the gym, because of social distancing, rather than the church to worship. The Masses will be live streamed only at the 4 pm and 7 pm Masses on a large projection screen in the St. Joseph’s School gym. There will be ushers available to direct you at the church and the gym at those times. Parking availability will be the same as usual.

Encountering Canticles



If you have ever been curious about the origin of the hymns and songs in the vast treasury of the music of our Catholic faith, read the following and stay tuned for future articles under this title. In each “Encountering Canticles” spot, we will delve into the history of a particular psalm, hymn, or spiritual song. This time let’s take a look at one of the most well-known Advent hymns, *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*.

First, we note that “come” defines a key theme of advent, and indeed, the Latin root of “advent” is “adventus” meaning “arrival” or “coming.” This translates from the Greek word “parousia,” meaning “presence, arrival, or coming.”

The original language of this hymn is Latin and was chanted much like today. You may even recognize some of the Latin lyrics: “Veni, veni, Emmanuel... Gaude, gaude, Emmanuel, Nascetur pro te Israel.” These lyrics may have been derived from phrases of the Kyrie (Lord Have Mercy) found in ancient French missals that became known as the Seven Greater Antiphons or Great “O” Antiphons in Latin. These antiphons appeared together as a poem as early as the 8th century. They became the Vesper antiphons sung during the week leading to Christmas. The oldest known manuscript to contain this complete series of Latin texts is the *Liber Responsalis* of St. Gregory.

Each verse of the hymn reveals another name for Christ, ie. “Wisdom”, “King,” “Root of Jesse,” and together form an acrostic poem; line up the first letter of each of these names in order of appearance, and the words “ero cras” meaning “I will be tomorrow” emerges.

Veni, Veni, Emmanuel
Veni, veni, *Emmanuel*
Veni, veni, *Rec* Gentium,
Veni, veni *O* Oriens,
Veni, *Clavis* Davidica,
Veni, *O Radix* Jesse
Veni, veni, *Adonai*,
Veni, *O Sapientia*

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
O come, O come, *Emmanuel*,
O come, thou *King* of nations,
O come, thou *Daystar* seen on high,
O come, thou *Key* of David’s store,
O come, thou *Rod* of Jesse’s stem.
O come, o come, thou *Lord* of might,
O come, thou *Wisdom* from on high

This hymn, embodies the Lord’s message to his people, “I am coming; I will be there tomorrow.” It is the hope of the new dawn, the hope of true and everlasting Light that we recall each year during this season of joyful expectation we know as Advent.

Greetings St. Joseph family,

I am reaching out to all of you because our Church has a great need for more ushers. We are trying to recruit as many men as we can who are 21 years old and over to serve our church family during the Masses we have on the weekend and for other services. There are several reasons why we need more men at this time. Serving our church during Mass and at other services and functions of the church are crucial to our church family.

Scheduling has become challenging with the number of ushers we have available at this time. We need men to serve as protectors; managers of space and people; crowd management; to be able to administer First Aid and CPR; Movers; to be able to administer the defibrillator if the need arises; to assist the elderly or those handicapped; to help the Eucharistic Ministers; to hold doors open for people. There are several other reasons as well. We just don’t have the numbers of men we need to assist in our growing church at this time. If you desire to volunteer or know of someone who would be great, please call Mr. Barry Blackledge at 985-510-5502. *We will have a meeting for NEW and current Ushers on December 16th at 7pm in the St. Benedict Room.*

Ushers Needed
Are you willing to serve?

Thank You!

A big thank you to everyone who brought toys to church for our Christmas Crusade for Children project. It was very successful. Because of your generosity a few more kids will have a Merry Christmas.



Society of St Vincent de Paul Report: November 2020

We made **20** home visits serving **61** people

Delivered 23 bags of food from our Parish Food Pantry

Paid utility bills totaling \$2,248.61 and \$908.47 in other assistance including shelter, clothing, fresh food, transportation needs, and other necessary household needs.

As always, we are grateful for your generosity that makes our work with the poor possible. At this time we are low on toiletries in our pantry, such as **toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, paper towels, and shampoo**. Donations of these items would be greatly appreciated!!!!

We are in need of new members due to the fact that some of our members have moved, and others have health issues that are preventing them from going on home visits. If you feel called to this ministry please come to a meeting and see what we do. Our next scheduled meetings are **December 15th** and **December 29th**.

John the Baptist

At a school open house a woman could be overheard introducing her husband to some of the other parents. "Oh, Bill, I'd like you to meet Johnny's father. And over here, this is Marie's mom; you know, the little girl from our Ellen's soccer team."

With satisfied resignation Bill introduced himself not by name: "I'm Ellen's Dad."

It's good to know who you are. Be it someone's father or mother, son or daughter, husband or wife, it's important to embrace the full meaning of our various roles.

John the Baptist knows who he is. And who he is not. He is not the Christ. Nor Elijah. Nor like any other prophet God's people had ever seen.

John the Baptist knows his mission is divine. He's more than satisfied to be the one to announce the coming of God's reign. The Christ is near. Make straight your paths.

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Today's Readings

First Reading — As a garden makes its growth spring up, so will God make justice spring up before all the nations (Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11).

Psalm — My soul rejoices in my God (Luke 1:46-50, 53-54).

Second Reading — Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good (1 Thessalonians 5:16-24).

Gospel — I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord (John 1:6-8, 19-28).

Monica's Journey

"Monica's Journey" is a ministry of St. Joseph Catholic Church for women who struggle to find answers in the midst of difficult relationships or traumatic experiences in their lives. This ministry gives them a welcoming and non-judgmental place to find the hope and healing they need. Meetings are held in the evening during the week for 90 minutes. Members of other denominations are welcome. **This is a strictly confidential group and a confidentiality statement must be signed by all members.** The place and time of meetings will be disclosed after initial contact is made with the group facilitator. Voicemail: *Please leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as possible. (985) 467-9520.*

Healing Hearts

Healing Hearts: A Catholic support group for WOMEN, whose relationships have been negatively impacted by the pornography addiction or sexual addiction of a loved one. This may include a spouse, boyfriend, family member or friend.

Strict confidentiality is observed by all members. Meetings are held on a weekly basis. Contact 985-401-2010 for more information and respond to the prompting.



Healing from Divorce Group

If you are separated or divorced, the Church cares about you. The loss of a relationship through separation or divorce poses one of the most difficult transitions a person can face. As people journey through a divorce, they face the stress of emotions, life changes, and developing a way to live a new life. As a Church, we are called to imitate Jesus Christ, who always sought to heal the brokenhearted. St. Joseph now has a new ministry for this purpose. For more information please contact Angela Perrin at 985-318-4927.

Please Pray for Sick and Shut-Ins

Jack Addison, Deacon Mike Agnello, Stephanie Alexander, Victoria "Vickie" Alexander, Ray Aleman, Ockie Baldassoro, Sr., Patrick Bailey, Mark Bear, Gloria Bennett, Mildred Bittick, David Blake, Michelle Bossier, Hazel Boudreaux, Larry Boudreaux, Ranice Bourg, Barbara Bourgeois, Angel Braun, Amy Brennan, JoAnne Brisset, Jeanette Brown, Carrie Burch, Jonathan Burch, Baby David Burris, Eric Campos, Christine Castjohn, Carol Castle, Dennis Charbonnet, Rita Charbonnet, Julian Chiro, Gavin Cieutat, PJ Clause, Ken Davidson, Lucille Davidson, Melissa Balado Dean, Kitty Derveloy, Larry Deslatte, Stacey Dolan, Beverly Dominique, Carol Dominguez, Danette Crovetto Drell, Andrew Dzuryachko, Pam Guichet Elder, Nicholas Eirich, Veronica Fannally, Joey Fortenberry, Marge Frahm, Eva Francois, Geraldine Freeman, Timmy Gates, Lenny George, Nittie Gilliland, Carolyn Gillingham, Malissa Gonzalez, Joan Gurganus, Brian Guichet, Myrthus "Twinkle" Guichet, Anne Guidry, Sue Quave Guildner, John Gullo, Rami Falgout Harkcom, Katherine Harris, Tommy Hebert, Kalee Henderson, Sherry Hill, Tammy Perrin Horn, Peggy Howes, Jimmy Hubert, Tara Huguot, Ashley Ingolia, Betty Ingolia, Grace Innerarity, Jennifer Jernigan, Lawrence Joiner, Alan Klein, David Kraft, Charles Gregory Kraft, Greg Kraft, Sis Kyzar, Debra Lanus, Norma Larrieu, Dwayne Lato, Diane Lavigne, Wayne Laurent, Ruby Drude Lee, Sally LeJeune, Liz LeSaicherre, Hilton Lloyd, IV, Nathan deLord, Elsie Major, Fr. Cayet Mangiaracina, O.P., Arthur & Tate Mashburn, Caitlyn Matherne, Melissa McCormick, Max McCray, Ginger McLin, Cole McMillion, Morris Meyer, Barry Mince Sr., Anna Mae Mixon, Patricia Monteleone, Andrew Morales, Ed Murray, Aliyah Naquin, Judy Nicholas, CJ Otilio, Ruth Ourso, Wanda Pandarvis, George Peltier, Wayne Pepitone, Bert Perilloux, Marisa Perrin, Camilla Phillips, Fran Poche, Ann Prine, Mary Prine, Krystal Raulerson, Baby Damon Reggio, Kayla Reggio, Bryan Roddick, A. J. Roig, Jr., Emile Sanchez & Family, Stacy Sanders, Brooklyne Sansone, Ernest Schenck, Bob Simoneaux, Bristol Rose Smith, Kayla Smith, Scott Stanga, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Tartamelia, Wylene Remy Taylor, Earl Theriot, Madeline Thibodeaux, Tracy Todd, Mike Tournillon, Travis Troxler, Sam Vilardo, Sam Viola, Carla Van Vrancken, June Villa, Glen Walker, Adelle Wall, Danny Wall, Danni Waugh, Rodney Wempren, Peggy West, Faith Rose Wiltz. **Names submitted will be included for 4 weeks. Please call the Church office to renew.**

Please pray for members of our parish family serving our country in the armed forces and remember also their families:

CM Sgt Christopher Castle, Col. Brad Duplessis, Col. Brian Duplessis, Col. David, Duplessis- Commander, Mason Joiner Sgt Major in Army, Capt. Kathleen Keller, Jacob Milton, Commander Eric Olsen, US Navy. **Names submitted will be included for 4 weeks. Please call the Church office to renew.**

Saints and Special Observations

Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent

Monday: St. John of the Cross

Intentions of the Holy Father

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.



PAL (Parents of Addicted Loved-ones) is a support group of parents helping parents. PAL is also open to spouses and other family members and friends (18 or older) who have a loved one struggling with addiction.

A local PAL group meets in the St. Dominic room of St. Joseph's Ministry Building on the corner of 8th and Pine St. every 2nd & 4th Thursday from 6-7:30 pm. *However, during the Pandemic we are hosting ZOOM meetings on those nights instead.*

We look forward to sharing this program of hope and support with you. For more information contact Mary Jo B. at 985-320-3010 or Paige B. 985-981-8010 or review the website www.palgroup.org. All inquiries are held in strict confidence. **You are not alone There is HOPE.**

Readings for the Week of

December 14, 2020

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27
 Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19, 23; Mt 21:28-32
 Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 7:18b-23
 Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
 Friday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
 Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

Next Sunday Readings (December 20, 2020)

First Reading.....2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
 Second Reading..... Romans 16:25-27
 Gospel.....Luke 1:26-38
 Psalm.....89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 14, 2020

8:00 AM (L) Anna & Aaron Foret

Tuesday December 16, 2020

8:00 AM Lelia Pellichino

Saturday, December 19, 2020

5:00 PM Philip Alexander
 Earl Baudin
 Dudley & Geraldine Berthelot
 (L) President Elect Joe Biden.
 (L) Mike Boudreaux
 Delton Brooks
 Phillip Connelley
 Robert Connelley
 Dominick DiCarlo
 Rudolph Ellenberger
 (L) Taylor Gautreaux
 Mamie Heiring
 Wayne Kraemer
 Virgil McWilliams Krafft
 Dickie Lamp

Sunday, December 20, 2020

8:00 AM For the People of the Parish
 11:00 AM Mary, Sam & Ciro Agnello
 (L) President Elect Joe Biden
 Earl Baudin
 Mary Sue Drude
 Richard & Clotilde Drude
 Diana Hoover
 Beverly Rose Ingolia
 Wayne Kraemer
 Virgil Krafft
 Dickie Lamp
 Vincent Latino, Sr.
 Helen & Stanley Laurent
 Merlin "Moe" Laurent

Tuesday, December 15, 2020

8:00 AM Ted Dupont

Thursday, December 17, 2020

8:00 AM Terry Jacob

Graceann Gruicet Martina & Bot Martina
 Elais Orfandis
 Bill Perrin
 Rufus Poche
 Vincent Poche
 Michael Robert Raiford
 Dale Roberts
 Liz Sanderson
 Glenn Snyder
 (L) Beth Soniat
 (L) Kevin Spansel
 Souls in Purgatory
 Tommy Wintz
 (L) Nick Wylie

Doris Lavigne
 Levon Major
 Martin Muller
 Vera Ragan
 Michael Robert Raiford
 Dale Roberts
 Audrey Scamardo
 Gayle Schwab
 (L) Debbie Sirisophon
 Glenn Snyder
 Souls in Purgatory
 Joy Steib
 Bobby Vitter

Stewardship

"Lion from the Tribe of Judah"

Name seven. A popular game for educators, ask students to name seven of anything. Name the seven dwarfs. Name the seven wonders of the ancient world. Try naming seven candy bars, flavors of soda, seven of the Founding Fathers, seven states that border the Atlantic Ocean. A fun and simple activity, it points to the limits of human memory. We could choose biblical examples, with similar results. Name seven of the twelve apostles. How about the children of Jacob, the tribes of Israel? Would everyone remember Benjamin? How about Joseph? Father of priests, Leah's son Levi? Or, what about Judah? We should remember Judah. Jesus was one of his descendants, a Lion from The Tribe of Judah. We discover that truth in the very first book of the Bible.

"Jacob called his sons and said: 'Assemble and listen, sons of Jacob, listen to Israel, your father. You, Judah, shall your brothers praise—your hand on the neck of your enemies; the sons of your father shall bow down to you. Judah is a lion's cub, you have grown up on prey, my son. He crouches, lies down like a lion, like a lioness—who could dare rouse him? The scepter shall never depart from Judah, or the mace from between his feet, until tribute comes to him, and he receives the people's obedience.' "

Financial News

YTD	Actual	Budgeted	Difference
12/6//2020	\$415,601.97	\$437,000.00	\$ -21,398.03
Church Support	\$ 22,273.00		
St. Vincent de Paul.	\$ 993.00		
Misc. Collections	\$ 620.00		
	\$ 23,886.00		

Second Collections

Retired Religious Fund: December 13th
 St. Joseph School: December 20th

Ministry Schedule

Saturday, December 19th Sunday December 20th

	<u>Eucharistic Ministers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
5PM	Fay Murray 7b Tom Waller 8b Merle Ozment 9b	Francis Martino Chris Marmillion Durald Pinion Blaine Anderson Michael Chiasson Jacob Schmaltz Roland Terrebonne Ronnie Reggio Pete Peterson William Mathes
8AM	Jason Hotard 7b Ashley Hotard 8b Benjamin Perrin 9b	Randy Bennett Joseph Ragan Sidney Alexander Barry Blackledge
11 AM	Andy Wheat (7b) Bill Wheat (8b) Pat Alexander (9b)	

Lectors

5PM James Wittenberg
 8AM Dennis James
 11 AM Tony Guagliardo, III

Christmas Poinsettias

Join in the festive decoration of our church by donating \$15.00 to purchase a Christmas Poinsettia. The donations can be in honor of a living or deceased individual or family. To donate, place Christmas Poinsettia envelopes in the basket marked "Christmas Poinsettia" located on the counter inside the church by December 25th. Or, you can drop your envelope off at the Church Office. Make sure you list the names of the individual or family to be honored and how you want your name listed in the bulletin. Poinsettia's will NOT be available for pickup after Christmas. Any questions call Barbara Martino, 985-386-3622 or Roberta Connelley, 985-386-9711.

Volunteers Needed

Christmas Decorations Going Up
Friday, December 18th at 8:30 am

Man-power needed to place trees EVERYTHING going up on this Friday. Our trees need extra attention. We are replacing all tree toppers, tree lights need attention, and all trees really need fluffing. Ladies please come and pitch in.

The poinsettias will added to the decorations on **Tues., Dec.22** at 9am

May God continue to bless all St. Joseph Parish great volunteers. We want to thank all of you in advance for making St. Joseph Church ready for the coming of Our Lord. Questions call,

NEEDED: MEN & WOMEN Francis & Barbara 386-3622

There Is A Need

Every day you see people who are hurting: those who have lost a job, have lost a loved one, have gone through a divorce, are battling a terminal illness or any other number of issues. Stephen Ministers are God's representatives who bring his love to those who are hurting. God is waiting to make a difference in their lives through you! If you want to find out more about how you can be involved in this one to one caregiving ministry, contact Anita Perrin (985) 687-4458 or Ronnie Perrin (985) 507-9765.



CALLING ALL YOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL



SAVE THE DATE
Sunday January 10th
5:00 – 7:00 pm

**Kick off the New Year with a YOUTH NIGHT SOCIAL
& NEW YOUTH MINISTERS Kayla & Nicole**
Details to Come!!!

Mark Your Calendar

- Sunday, December 13th**
Parish School of Religion 9:30 am in the School
- Sunday, December 13th**
Ablaze—9:30 am
- Sunday, December 13th**
The Sacraments—9:30 am in SJS Library
- Sunday, December 13th**
Called & Gifted—9:30am –School Classroom
- Sunday, December 13th**
Practice for Live Nativity—after 11 am Mass
- Sunday, December 13th**
Thirst— 5:00 pm
- Monday, December 14th**
Youth Choir Practice— 4:00 pm in the Choir Room
- Tuesday, December 15th**
St. Vincent de Paul Meeting— 6:30pm in the Ministry Building
- Tuesday, December 15th**
Word & Worship—Church-7:00 pm
- Wednesday, December 16th**
Adoration—Church 9:00 am to 6:00 pm
- Wednesday, December 16th**
Divine Mercy—Church-3:00 pm
- Wednesday, December 16th**
Vespers—Church - 6:00 pm
- Wednesday, December 16th**
Ushers Meeting—7pm St. Benedict Room
- Saturday, December 19th**
Confession—4:00 pm
- Monday, December 21st**
Blue Christmas—6pm Community Center
- Thursday, December 24th**
Christmas Eve Masses: 4pm & 7pm
- Friday, December 25th**
The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
Mass: 10 am
- Sunday, January 10th**
Youth Night Social—5pm

TOB FOR TEENS TRAINING: NEW ORLEANS

Dates: Jan. 13, 14, 15, 2021

Where: St. Dominic Catholic Church (Siena Room)
775 Harrison Ave. New Orleans, LA

Presenter: Brian Butler of Dumb Ox Ministries

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY FOR TEENS ANSWERS QUESTIONS SUCH AS:

- Who am I?
- What is the purpose of the Theology of the Body?
- What is the difference between love & lust?
- What if I've already "messed up"?
- How can I discover my vocation?
- How can I remain pure in our oversexed culture?
- Any many more!

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

PRINCIPALS, TEACHERS, PRIESTS, CATECHISTS, YOUTH/CAMPUS MINISTERS, PARENTS, ANYONE WHO WORKS WITH PRETEENS (6TH-8TH GRADERS) & TEENS (9TH-12TH GRADERS.)



Gardening Angels

Our Gardening Angels program is still on hold due to COVID. Miss everyone! Meanwhile, we are so appreciative of the following angels who have adopted a plot with mom or grandma for heavenly credit only: Jack McLain with mom Robin * Josh and Juliana Heroman with mom, Jamie and Me-Maw Wanda Allen * Libby Rabalais with mom, Diane and Me-Maw Sandi Daniels * Aubrey and Nora Alston with mom, Tara.

Also, we want to thank the following archangels who came out in November to give us an extra hand in weeding or doing special maintenance projects to keep our campus attractive: Dale Snapp, Kelly Wolfe, Ron Huget and Shelly Prescia. Also, please welcome new member Sheila Allen who has adopted the office garden!

Want to weed for Jesus? We still have some plots waiting to be adopted! We welcome anyone in the parish. You do not have to a child or grandchild in St. Joseph school. Contact Marie 985-520-7599. Again thanks for your help!



Aubrey & Nora Alston



Libby Rabalais



Jack McLain



Josh Heroman



Juliana Heroman

Be Seen With Your Mother

Ever pondered the fact that we share a Mother with the God of the universe? If you think about it, it's truly amazing! Many of us know that the life of Jesus is foreshadowed all throughout the Old Testament, and just how Jesus is the "New Adam," so Mary is the "New Eve" and plays a crucial role in our redemption. Throughout these classes, we will TOGETHER begin to unveil the Marian mystery present throughout sacred scripture while also deepening our love and affection for our Immaculate Mother. She is always there for us, ready to walk with us, willing to be seen with us.

Dates: Jan. 3rd, 10th, 24th, 31st, Feb. 7th

Time: 9:30 am in the School Library

Leader: Savanna Balado

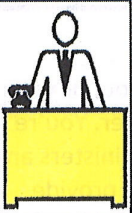


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