

# *Prepare the Way*



*The 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Sunday  
of  
Advent*

The Lord is patient with you  
Not wishing that any should perish  
But that all should come to repentance.  
(2 Peter 3:9b)

**ST. JOHN BOSCO  
CATHOLIC CHURCH  
December 6, 2020**

# *The Pastor Jots It Down*

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. John Bosco and St. Rosalie Parishes,

## *Happy Second Sunday of Advent!*

Today, we can ask ourselves “How has the first week of Advent impacted our lives?” If we answer that it has been business as usual and just like every other week in our lives, then we have missed the message and invitation of the Church.

Holy Mother Church knows our tendency to procrastinate, and so she reminds us this Sunday more boldly to Prepare the Way of the Lord. We see on the front cover of the bulletin the words, **Prepare the Way** beneath a nativity scene. We are reminded of God’s love in sending His only son, to become like us and offer His life in sacrifice so that we can be worthy of entering into heaven.

In our first reading today, we heard: The Lord is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but rather that all should come to repentance.

In our Gospel today, we hear of John the Baptist who was sent by God to prepare the way for the Lord, for his cousin, Jesus. John prepared the way by preaching, inviting the people to repent, to turn away from their sins and be baptized.

In the opening verses of Mark’s Gospel after John was arrested, Jesus began His public ministry, proclaiming the good news of God and saying: “The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God has come near, repent and believe in the good news.” (Mark 1:15)

Jesus summarized His mission to call people to change their ways and to repent – the same message we heard in the first reading; the same message proclaimed by John as he prepared the way for Jesus.

Because of original sin, this is the perennial message of Jesus and of the Church. We are called to turn away from our sins, to repent, and to make efforts to live a more gospel way of life.

Jesus gave us the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance, Confession) as a remedy for our sins and as means to help us live a more gospel way of life.

Regular reception of the sacrament of Reconciliation, along with daily prayer and faithful weekly celebration of the Eucharist, are musts for every Catholic if we sincerely desire to grow in our love for God and be examples of what it means to follow Jesus.

I encourage all our parishioners to prepare the way for the coming of Jesus through a good Advent confession. The first step in changing our ways is to admit the areas in confession where we need to change. Then rely upon the power of the sacrament coupled with our good will to help us live Jesus and God’s ways in our daily lives.

Confessions are heard every Wednesday evening from 7 – 8 pm during Adoration at both churches. Then on Saturdays at St. Rosalie from 3:15-4:45 pm and at St. John Bosco from 4:30-5:15pm.

You may also make an appointment for Confession with a priest of your choice; and as always, when the priest is in church, you can ask him for the sacrament.

God bless you! Happy Advent!

*F. Mark*

## ***St. John Bosco Catholic Church***

***Served by the Salesians of Don Bosco***

2114 Oakmere Dr. Harvey, LA 70058

office@saintjohnboscochurch.org

504.340.0444

**Fr. Mark Hyde, SDB**

*Pastor*

### **Current Mass Schedule**

Monday - Friday: 7:00am

Saturday: 8:00am

Saturday Vigil: 5:30pm

Sunday: 9:00 & 11:00am

### **Current Confession Schedule**

Saturday: 4:30 - 5:15pm (*before Vigil Mass*)

**Eucharistic Adoration & Confessions:**

*Wednesday 7:00 - 8:00pm*



## Archdiocese of New Orleans

Office of the Archbishop

7887 Walmsley Avenue  
New Orleans, LA 70125-3496  
Office: (504) 861-9521  
Fax (504) 314-9614  
Email: archbishop@arch-no.org

December 5, 2020

To: Clergy, Religious and Laity of the Archdiocese

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In his letter to the Galatians, St. Paul urges us to remain steadfast in helping others: “Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up” (Gal 6:9). During these unprecedented times, many are hurting and need our assistance, including elderly religious. As we approach the annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection, I encourage your continued support.

As you may know, senior religious were instrumental in establishing Catholic schools, hospitals, and charitable agencies. Often this progress came at great sacrifice, and many older sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little to no pay.

Today, hundreds of religious communities do not have enough retirement savings and struggle to provide for a growing number of elder members. Covid-19 has only increased the challenge to provide adequate care.

Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides vital funding for medications, nursing care, and more. If you are unable to give during Mass, please mail your offertory envelope to your parish or donate through your parish’s online giving platform, if available. **You can also send your contributions to:**

**Archdiocese of New Orleans  
Religious Retirement Fund**

7887 Walmsley Avenue  
New Orleans, LA 70125

*Please make your check payable to Retirement Fund for Religious.*

In these difficult days, you may feel as though your generosity has been exhausted. I ask just two things. First, please join me in praying for God’s protection for all our elderly religious. Second, please support the Retirement Fund for Religious collection as you are able—and know that women and men religious across the country hold you and your loved ones in grateful prayer.

Wishing you God’s blessings and with the assurance of my prayers, I am,

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Gregory M. Aymond  
Archbishop of New Orleans

# 5 Ways to Prepare the Way of the Lord

## 1. *Empathetic listening and accompanying*

Jesus came to set captives free, to set hearts free. We can do that for people in our lives when we accompany and listen to people – spending time with them.

## 2. *Rejoice in the good. Build people up.*

Who needs building up? Who is doing good things, needs someone to help them see joy, even if it's not explicitly Catholic? Who needs your influence to use the good in their life to connect better to God?

## 3. *Pray without ceasing*

When we ourselves are people of constant conversion, this becomes visible and attractive to the others around us.

## 4. *Testify to the light*

Speak and name grace in our lives and in others. Point to virtuous living... even if not explicitly Christian. Help people recognize the good by naming it.

## 5. *Be the voice and let Christ be the Word.*

John the Baptist was the voice. Jesus was and IS the Word – Christ within.

From: <https://catholic-link.org/prepare-the-way-advent-gospel-reflection/>

# Spiritual Exercise

1. Find a quiet, solitary place and spend some quiet time in prayer this week, creating silence amidst the busyness of the season. Ask the Lord to help you make space for him and to be patient with that space and quiet in this special time of waiting before Christmas.
2. In your prayer, consider the people in your life who need help in preparing for Christ's birth, or for His presence at all in their lives. Maybe it's already obvious who needs particular help. If not, ask the Lord and Our Lady to reveal to you the individuals and interactions where you can be the best witness and listener... who needs your time, patience and gentleness... who needs help to celebrate the good in their lives?
3. Ask Jesus and Mary to give you holy boldness in your life, that you could be more like John the Baptist – the voice for God's Word. Where are you too timid? Where do you miss opportunities to speak Christ's liberating Word into the world and into the hearts and minds of those you meet in daily life? Resolve to listen to Him and be open to how you might do a better job at this, using your own unique gifts.

## Christmas Mass Schedule



### ST. JOHN BOSCO

December 24<sup>th</sup> Morning 7:00 a.m. Fr. Wilgintz

#### Christmas Eve

6:00 p.m.	Fr. Mark	Vigil Mass
10:00 p.m.	Fr. Lou	Mass at Night

#### Christmas Day

7:30 a.m.	Fr. Wilgintz	Mass at Dawn
9:00 a.m.	Fr. George	Mass during the day
11:00 a.m.	Fr. Mark	Mass during the day

### ST. ROSALIE

December 24<sup>th</sup> Morning 7:00 a.m. Fr. Mark

#### Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m.	Fr. Wilgintz	Vigil Mass
6:00 p.m.	Fr. George	Vigil Mass
8:00 p.m.	Fr. Mark	Mass at Night

#### Christmas Day

10:30 a.m.	Fr. George	Mass during the day
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## *Adoration Chapel Christmas Closure*

The Adoration Chapel will close at 7:00pm  
Wednesday, December 23rd through  
Sunday, January 3rd.  
It will reopen following the 7:00am Mass on  
Monday, January 4, 2021

*Please consider committing to an hour  
during Advent. For more information contact  
[stjohnbosco@adorationservants.org](mailto:stjohnbosco@adorationservants.org)*



## *Vocation Prayer Intention*

From December 6 - 12  
please pray for



**Brother Ky Nguyen**  
who is in  
Theology IV  
currently studying in Orange, NJ

## *Feast Day of Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

*December 8th is a Holy Day of Obligation*

### ***Mass Schedule***

#### **ST. JOHN BOSCO**

*There will be NO Vigil Mass on Monday the 7th*  
Masses are: 7:00am, 12:00 noon & 6:00pm

#### **ST. ROSALIE**

*There will be NO Vigil Mass on Monday the 7th*  
Masses are: 7:00am & 6:00pm

*Blessed are you among women  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb!*  
(Luke 1:42)



## Announcements

**Second Collection:** Next weekend's second collection will benefit The Retirement Fund for the Religious. Please be as generous as possible.

### Moved?? Disconnected Home Phone??

Please contact the church office and update your information if this applies to you!



## What's Going On In Our Parish???

### Men's Club -

Monday, December 7th 6:30pm  
Conference Room

**Come Lord Jesus Bible Study -**  
Wednesday & Thursday 6:30pm



### Rosary -

Every Thursday at 10am in Church

## Sanctuary Candle

*Prayers for Healing*  
**Fr. Sid Figlia, sdb**

## Bread & Wine

*Prayers for Strength*  
**All Those Suffering**

## Pope's Prayer Intention December



### For a Life of Prayer

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

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, December 5

8:00am Parishioners of St. John Bosco  
5:30pm +Jacqueline G. Guillot  
+Peter John Paul Nguyen  
+Joseph Lai Duc Anh  
+John Baptist Tuan Nguyen  
+Wayne Delaune, MOB 12/9  
+Joyce Sonnier  
+Gene Robinson  
Thank you Jesus, Blessed Mother  
+Thomas Thien  
+All Souls in Purgatory  
Conversion of Sinners  
Fr. Sid Figlia, sdb  
+Penelope Solis  
+Neil J. Folsie, Sr. & Jr.  
+Paul Louis Nguyen Dinh Dzung  
+Mathew Foret  
+Rita & Oren Breaux, Sr.  
+Doug Trauth, Sr.  
+John Hefti  
+Peter Jimmy Pham, MOB  
+Rose S. & Joseph Bordlee, Jr.

### Sunday, December 6

9:00am +Peter Ken Vu  
+All Souls in Purgatory  
+James' Soul  
Conversion of Sinners  
+Mary Ann Ramos  
+Anna Tran Thi Phuong  
+Phero Vu Van Hoa  
+Ulrik Johansen  
+Derek DiMarco  
Thanksgiving to St. Jude  
+Jimmy Miller  
+Tommy Cruz  
11:00am Happy Birthday Rosie Catubig

### Monday, December 7

7:00am +Guillermo Q. Abdon, Jr. AOD 12/8

### Tuesday, December 8 ~

#### *Feast of the Immaculate Conception*

7:00am Parishioners Living & Deceased  
Noon Parishioners Living & Deceased  
6:00pm Parishioners Living & Deceased

### Wednesday, December 9

7:00am Melvin Cheramie, Sr., MOB

### Thursday, December 10

7:00am +Raymond & Helen Saulino

### Friday, December 11

7:00am +William Allen, AOD